

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Consumer Income

Series P60-187



Child Support for Custodial Mothers and Fathers: 1991



by Lydia Scoon-Rogers
and Gordon H. Lester

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Highlights

Custodial Mothers and Fathers

- As of spring 1992, 11.5 million women and men were custodial parents of children under 21 years of age whose other parents were absent from the household. The families they maintained comprised about one-third of all families with own never-married children under 21 years of age. See table A.
- While the majority (9.9 million) of custodial parents were women, a significant number of men (1.6 million) were custodial parents of children whose mothers were absent. See table A.

Poverty

- Custodial mothers had a poverty rate of 35 percent, about 2 1/2 times the poverty rate of custodial fathers. See table A.

Child Support Award and Payment

- About 54 percent of custodial parents had received child support awards as of spring 1992. Custodial mothers had a higher award rate (56 percent) than their male counterparts (41 percent). See table B.
- Of the 6.2 million custodial parents awarded child support, 5.3 million were supposed to receive child support in 1991. Approximately one-half of the parents due child support payments received the full amount due; the remaining one-half were divided about equally between those receiving partial payment and those receiving nothing at all. See table B.
- The mean amount of child support received by women receiving full or partial payment was \$3,011, approximately one-third more than that received by custodial fathers, \$2,292. See table B.

Health Insurance

- Approximately 41 percent of parents awarded child support payments as of spring 1992 had health insurance currently included in their award. However, only 69 percent of custodial parents expecting to receive health benefits actually did so. See table C.

Acknowledgments

Edward J. Welniak, Jr., Chief of the Income Statistics Branch, directed the report preparation. **Robert W. Cleveland** and **Kirby G. Posey** contributed to the preparation of this report. **Helen M. Ogle**, **Rose Mary Schade**, **Shirley L. Smith**, and **Marjorie R. Ward** provided statistical assistance. **Susan S. Donohue** provided word processing assistance. **Victor M. Valdisera** of the Computer Programming and Applications Staff produced the detailed tables. **Charles T. Nelson**, Assistant Division Chief for Economic Characteristics, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, provided overall direction for this report.

The Demographic Surveys Division, through the coordination of **Gregory D. Weyland**, and under the leadership of **Ronald R. Tucker**, processed the data. **Denise C. Lewis** of the Demographic Statistical Methods Division conducted the sampling review.

The staff of the Administrative and Publications Services Division, **Walter C. Odom**, Chief, performed publication planning, design, composition, editorial review, and printing planning and procurement. **Barbara M. Abbott** provided publication coordination and editing.

The Office of Child Support Enforcement of the Department of Health and Human Services co-sponsored the survey on which the findings in this report are based.

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Issued August 1995



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SUGGESTED CITATION

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P60-187, *Child Support for Custodial Mothers and Fathers: 1991*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1995.

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Child Support for Custodial Mothers and Fathers: 1991

NOTE: This report presents results from the April 1992 Child Support Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). Some questions asked in the 1992 child support supplement are quite different than those asked in earlier supplements. The major differences are explained in Appendix A, "Changes to the 1992 Current Population Survey Child Support Supplement." These differences represent a break in the April CPS data series. As a result, data from the April 1992 CPS are not strictly comparable to data for earlier years. This report refers only to the April 1992 results.

INTRODUCTION

This report provides information on the receipt of child support payments in 1991 by parents living with their own children whose other parents are absent following divorce or separation, and on the receipt of child support payments by never-married custodial parents. For the first time, data on custodial fathers were collected in the April 1992 supplement to the CPS, reflecting the growing need for information about men living with their own children whose mothers are absent from the household. In 1992, there were about 11.5 million custodial parents, 9.9 million of whom were custodial mothers and 1.6 million of whom were custodial fathers.

The April Child Support Supplement to the CPS is conducted by the Bureau of the Census and is sponsored, in part, by the Office of Child Support Enforcement, Department of Health and Human Services. The supplement surveys a sample of custodial parents 15 years old and over in the United States. This report compares child support and socioeconomic characteristics of custodial mothers and fathers to the extent that there was a sufficient sample to provide statistically reliable information.

All demographic surveys, including the CPS, suffer from undercoverage of the population. This undercoverage results from missed housing units and missed persons within sample households. Compared to the level of the 1990 Decennial Census, overall CPS undercoverage is about 8 percent. Undercoverage varies with age, sex, and race. For some groups, such as 20- to 24-year-old Black males, the undercoverage is as high as about 29 percent. The weighting procedures, used by the Census Bureau, partially correct for the bias due to undercoverage. However, its final impact on estimates is unknown. For details, see appendix B.

HIGHLIGHTS

(The figures in parentheses denote 90-percent confidence intervals.)

- As of spring 1992, 11.5 million ($\pm 419,000$) women and men were custodial parents of children under 21 years of age whose other parents were not living in the household. The families they maintained comprised approximately one-third of all families with own, never-married children under 21 years of age.
- While the majority (9.9 million $\pm 393,000$) of custodial parents were women, a significant number of men provided homes for own children whose mothers were absent (1.6 million $\pm 164,000$).
- Mothers living with children from an absent father had a poverty rate of 35 (± 1) percent, approximately 2 1/2 times the poverty rate of their male counterparts, 13 (± 2) percent, and more than four times the rate for all married-couple families with children,¹ 8 (± 0.5) percent.
- About 54 (± 2) percent or 6.2 million ($\pm 317,000$) custodial parents received awards for child support as of spring 1992. Custodial mothers had a higher award rate (56 ± 2 percent) than custodial fathers (41 ± 5 percent).
- Of the 6.2 million ($\pm 317,000$) custodial parents awarded child support, 5.3 million ($\pm 295,000$) were supposed to receive child support payments in 1991. Approximately one-half of the parents due child support received full payment; the remaining one-half were divided about equally between those receiving partial payment and those receiving nothing.
- Approximately 76 (± 3) percent of the 4.9 million ($\pm 283,000$) custodial mothers due child support in 1991 received full or partial payment, compared with 63 (± 9) percent of the 0.4 million ($\pm 87,000$) custodial fathers.
- Approximately 79 (± 3) percent of *noncustodial* parents with joint custody and/or visitation privileges that owed child support paid some or all support due in 1991, compared with 56 (± 7) percent of noncustodial parents with no visitation or joint custody that owed child support.

¹The term "all married-couple families" includes custodial mothers and fathers that were currently married, approximately 13 percent of married-couple families with own never-married children under 21.

- The mean child support amount received by custodial mothers receiving all or some payments in 1991, \$3,011 (\pm \$156), was approximately one-third more than that received by their male counterparts, \$2,292 (\pm \$530).
- On average, child support comprised 17 (\pm 2) percent of total money income received by custodial mothers receiving child support in 1991, compared with 7 (\pm 5) percent of custodial fathers' total money income.
- The aggregate amount of child support received was \$11.9 (\pm \$0.8) billion in 1991, 67 (\pm 6) percent of the total \$17.7 (\pm \$1.0) billion due. The aggregate child support income deficit was \$5.8 (\pm \$0.4) billion, \$5.3 (\pm \$0.4) billion owed to custodial mothers and \$0.6 billion (\pm \$3 million) owed to custodial fathers.
- Approximately 41 (\pm 3) percent of parents awarded child support payments as of 1992 had health insurance currently included in their award. However, only 69 (\pm 4) percent of custodial parents expecting to receive health benefits actually did so.
- Both custodial fathers and custodial mothers stated one of the two most common reasons they were not awarded child support was "they did not *pursue* an award" (one-third each). The other reason for custodial fathers was "they did not *want* an award," (one-third) and for custodial mothers it was "they were unable to locate the father" (one-fifth).
- Approximately 38 (\pm 2) percent (3.8 million \pm 250,000) of custodial mothers had contacted a government agency for assistance in obtaining child support, compared with 15 (\pm 4) percent of custodial fathers (0.2 million \pm 64,000).

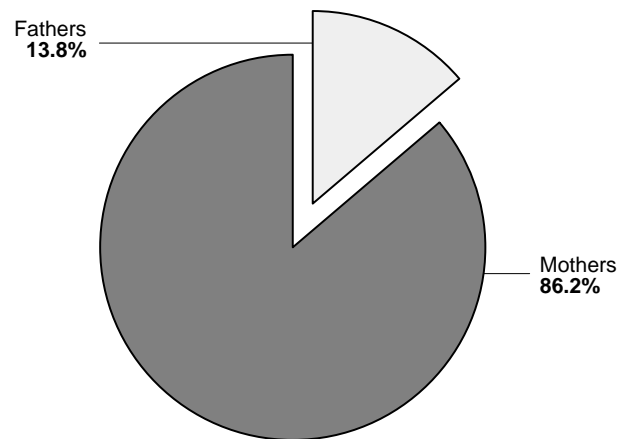
COMPARING CHARACTERISTICS OF CUSTODIAL MOTHERS AND FATHERS

As of spring 1992, 11.5 million women and men 15 years of age or older lived with their own children under 21 years of age whose other parents were not living in the household. The families they maintained comprised about one-third of all families with own children under 21 years of age.

While the majority of custodial parents were women (86 percent or 9.9 million custodial parents), a significant number of men provided homes for children whose mothers were absent. In 1992, about 1.6 million or 14 percent of custodial parents were men (see figure 1).

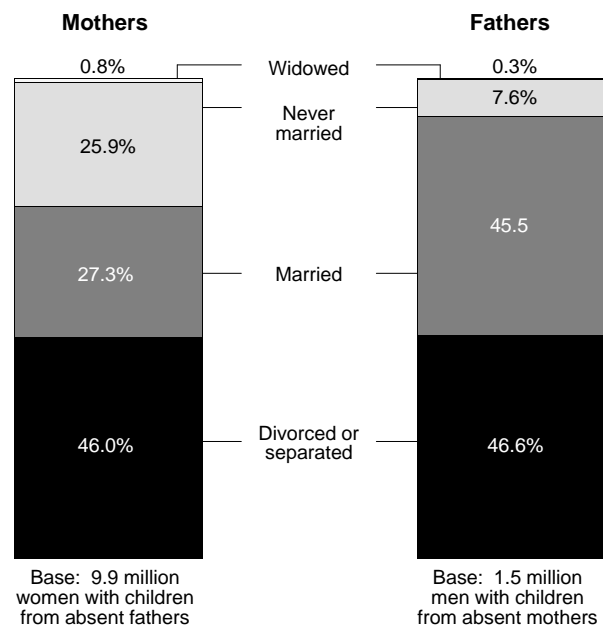
Custodial parents typically had less than a college education (63 percent). They were also likely to be under 40 years of age. A large segment, 32 percent, was poor in 1991 (had family incomes below the official government poverty level, see table A).

Figure 1.
Custodial Parents
(As of spring 1992)



Base: 11.5 million women and men with children from absent parents.

Figure 2.
Marital Status of Custodial Parents by Sex
(As of spring 1992)



Looking at custodial mothers and fathers separately revealed differences in many of their socioeconomic characteristics. While Whites constituted the majorities among both custodial fathers and mothers, a larger percentage of custodial fathers were White, compared with custodial mothers (85 percent and 70 percent, respectively). The percentage of custodial fathers that

were Black was 12 percent, smaller than the percentage of custodial mothers that were Black, 27 percent. However, the percentages of Hispanic custodial mothers and Hispanic custodial fathers were not significantly different (about 10 percent).²

In 1992, about one-half of custodial fathers (46 percent) were currently married, compared with approximately one-fourth of custodial mothers (27 percent). Custodial mothers were 3 1/2 times as likely to be

never-married as custodial fathers—26 percent, compared with 8 percent. Custodial fathers and mothers were equally as likely to be divorced or separated, about 47 percent³ (see figure 2).

Fathers with children whose mothers were absent from the home were typically older than their female counterparts. Approximately one-half (46 percent) of custodial fathers were 40 years old and over compared with 25 percent of custodial mothers. While custodial

²Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. There was no significant difference between the percentages of Hispanic custodial mothers and Black custodial fathers. In addition, there was no significant difference between the percentage of Black custodial fathers and Hispanic custodial fathers.

³There was no significant difference between the percentages of currently-married custodial mothers and never-married custodial mothers. In addition, there was no significant difference between the percentage of currently-married custodial fathers and the percentages of divorced or separated mothers or fathers.

Table A. Characteristics of All Custodial Parents and Custodial Parents With Incomes Below Poverty Level in 1991 by Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS						
Total	11,502	100.0	9,918	100.0	1,584	100.0
Standard error	255	(X)	239	(X)	100	(X)
Current Marital Status						
Married	3,428	29.8	2,707	27.3	721	45.5
First marriage	955	8.3	740	7.5	214	13.5
Divorced, remarried	2,474	21.5	1,967	19.8	507	32.0
Divorced	3,599	31.3	3,052	30.8	546	34.5
Separated	1,705	14.8	1,514	15.3	191	12.1
Widowed ¹	85	0.7	80	0.8	5	0.3
Never married	2,685	23.3	2,565	25.9	120	7.6
Race and Hispanic Origin						
White	8,319	72.3	6,966	70.2	1,352	85.4
White, not Hispanic origin	7,227	62.8	5,993	60.4	1,235	78.0
Black	2,886	25.1	2,698	27.2	188	11.9
Hispanic origin ²	1,160	10.1	1,043	10.5	118	7.4
Age						
15 to 17 years	92	0.8	88	0.9	5	0.3
18 to 29 years	3,197	27.8	3,022	30.5	175	11.0
30 to 39 years	5,058	44.0	4,379	44.2	679	42.9
40 years and over	3,154	27.4	2,429	24.5	725	45.8
Educational Attainment						
Less than high school diploma	2,559	22.2	2,272	22.9	286	18.1
High school graduate	4,695	40.8	4,092	41.3	603	38.1
Some college, no degree	2,250	19.6	1,931	19.5	319	20.1
Associate degree	729	6.3	649	6.5	80	5.1
Bachelor's degree or more	1,269	11.0	974	9.8	295	18.6
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent						
One child	6,036	52.5	5,090	51.3	946	59.7
Two children	3,565	31.0	3,085	31.1	480	30.3
Three children	1,290	11.2	1,166	11.8	123	7.8
Four children or more	612	5.3	577	5.8	35	2.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A. Characteristics of All Custodial Parents and Custodial Parents With Incomes Below Poverty Level in 1991 by Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY						
Total	3,720	100.0	3,513	100.0	207	100.0
Standard error	151	(X)	147	(X)	36	(X)
Current Marital Status						
Married	410	11.0	338	9.6	73	35.3
First marriage	193	5.2	168	4.8	25	12.1
Divorced, remarried	217	5.8	170	4.8	47	22.7
Divorced	935	25.1	877	25.0	58	28.0
Separated	874	23.5	836	23.8	38	18.4
Widowed ¹	14	0.4	14	0.4	-	-
Never married	1,487	40.0	1,449	41.2	38	18.4
Race and Hispanic Origin						
White	2,134	57.4	1,979	56.3	154	74.4
White, not Hispanic origin	1,582	42.5	1,455	41.4	126	60.9
Black	1,478	39.7	1,433	40.8	45	21.7
Hispanic origin ²	591	15.9	563	16.0	28	13.5
Age						
15 to 17 years	61	1.6	58	1.7	3	1.4
18 to 29 years	1,529	41.1	1,472	41.9	57	27.5
30 to 39 years	1,555	41.8	1,455	41.4	100	48.3
40 years and over	575	15.5	528	15.0	47	22.7
Educational Attainment						
Less than high school diploma	1,549	41.6	1,452	41.3	98	47.3
High school graduate	1,489	40.0	1,419	40.4	70	33.8
Some college, no degree	468	12.6	449	12.8	19	9.2
Associate degree	117	3.1	109	3.1	8	3.9
Bachelor's degree or more	97	2.6	84	2.4	13	6.3
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent						
One child	1,422	38.2	1,308	37.2	113	54.6
Two children	1,152	31.0	1,097	31.2	55	26.6
Three children	701	18.8	679	19.3	22	10.6
Four children or more	445	12.0	429	12.2	17	8.2

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Represents not applicable.

¹Includes widowed persons whose previous marriage ended in divorce.

²Hispanic origin persons may be of any race.

mothers were more likely to be under 30 years of age (31 percent) than custodial fathers (11 percent), the percentages of custodial fathers and mothers under 18 years of age were not statistically different—about 1 percent for each.

Men living with own children whose mothers were not in the household were twice as likely to have received a bachelor's degree than their female counterparts. Approximately 19 percent of custodial fathers received at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 10 percent of custodial mothers. However, over one-half of both custodial fathers and mothers had not attended college (56 percent of custodial fathers and 64 percent of custodial mothers).

Women living with children of noncustodial fathers were 2 1/2 times more likely to be in poverty than their male counterparts. Approximately 35 percent of women with children whose fathers were absent from the home were poor, compared with 13 percent of custodial fathers (see figure 3).

Further analysis of custodial mothers shows the poverty rate varied by characteristics of the women. For example, the poverty rate for never-married women was 57 percent in 1991, compared with 28 percent for ever-married women.

The poverty rate for White women, 28 percent, was one-half that for Black women (53 percent). The poverty

Figure 3.
Poverty Status of Custodial Mothers and Fathers: 1991

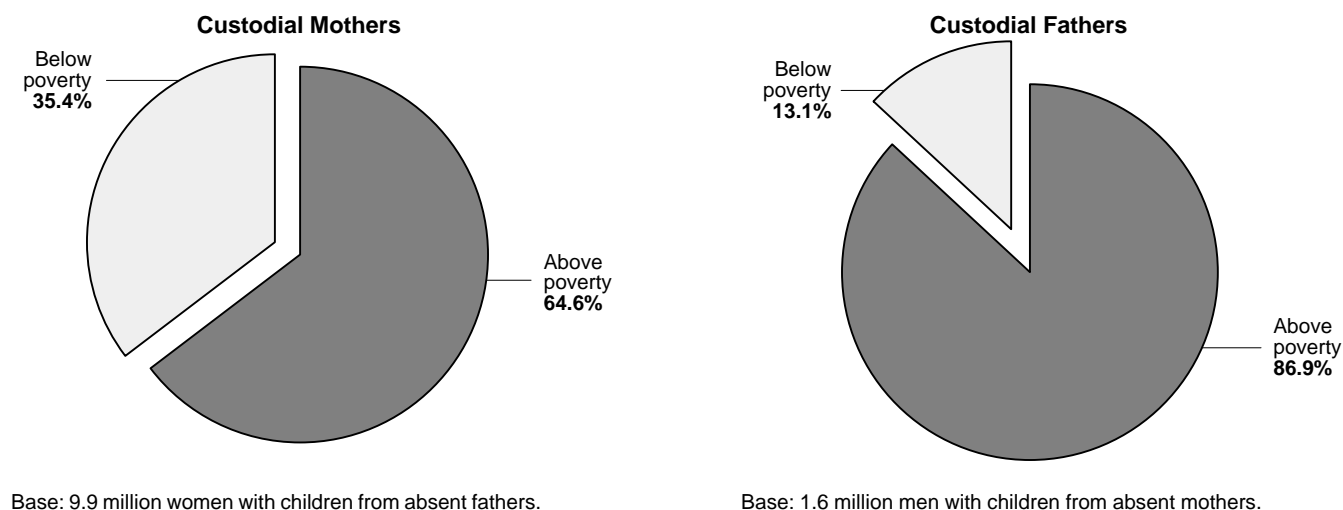
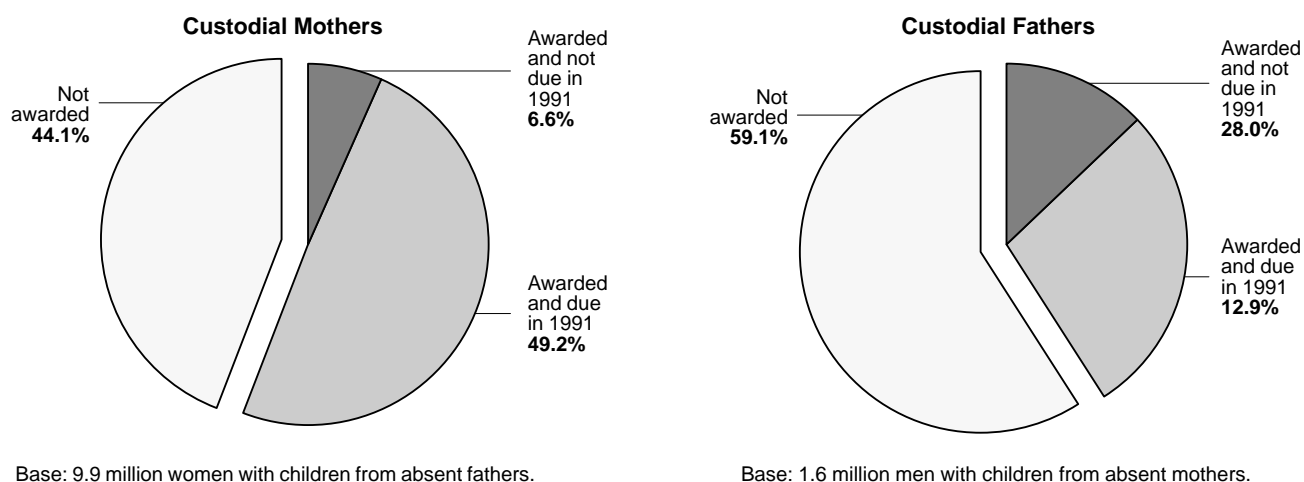


Figure 4.
Award of Child Support Payments for Custodial Mothers and Fathers: 1991
(As of spring 1992)



rate for Hispanic origin women was 54 percent, not significantly different from the poverty rate of Black women.

The poverty status of custodial mothers also differed by their level of educational attainment. The poverty rate for custodial mothers with less than a high school diploma was 64 percent in 1991, substantially more than that for custodial mothers with at least a high school diploma (27 percent).

Younger women with children from noncustodial fathers were more likely to have family incomes below the poverty level than their older counterparts. The poverty rate for custodial mothers under 30 years of age was 49 percent, compared with 29 percent for custodial mothers 30 years of age and over.

Women with more than one child from a noncustodial father were also more likely to be poor than those with only one child. The poverty rate for women with two or more children was 46 percent in 1991, compared to a poverty rate of 26 percent for women with only one child.

AWARD AND RECEIPT OF CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

In total, 54 percent or 6.2 million women and men with own children whose other parents were absent from the home had received awards for child support as of spring 1992. Custodial mothers had a higher award

rate than custodial fathers. Specifically, 56 percent of custodial mothers received awards, compared with 41 percent of their male counterparts (see figure 4).

While 6.2 million custodial parents had received awards for child support as of spring 1992, 5.3 million of them were supposed to receive payments in 1991.⁴ Approximately one-half of the parents due child support received full payment. The remaining one-half (51 percent) was about equally divided between those receiving partial payment (24 percent) and those receiving nothing (25 percent).

Approximately 4.9 million women and 0.4 million men were supposed to receive child support in 1991. Of those women due payments, 76 percent actually received some payment (all or part). The receipt rate for custodial fathers was somewhat lower, 63 percent (see table B).

Highlighting custodial mothers reveals that the child support award rates for women varied markedly across characteristics, but the rates of actually *receiving* the child support due varied little across characteristics. For example, the percentage of poor women who were awarded child support, 39 percent, was significantly lower than the 65 percent award rate for nonpoor women. Of poor women due child support payments in 1991, 70 percent actually received payments. The receipt rate for the nonpoor women due payments in 1991 was 78 percent⁵ (see table 1).

The child support award rate for ever-married women was 66 percent as of 1992, more than double the award rate for never-married women (27 percent). Of women due child support, the percentage of never-married women who received payments in 1991 (74 percent) was not significantly different from the percentage of ever-married women (77 percent).

The child support award rate for White custodial mothers (64 percent) was about twice that of Black custodial mothers (36 percent). The award rate for Hispanic custodial mothers was 35 percent.⁶ The percentage of White women who received child support payments due them was 78 percent, not significantly different from the receipt rates of Black or Hispanic women (both around 70 percent).

Women with a bachelor's degree or more were more likely to be awarded payments (73 percent) than women with less than a bachelor's degree (54 percent). Women

with at least a bachelor's degree were also more likely to receive the support due them than women without one (86 percent and 75 percent, respectively).⁷

Noncustodial Parent's Visitation and Joint Custody Provisions

Noncustodial mothers were more likely to have provisions to make contact with their children (visitation privileges, joint custody, or both) than were noncustodial fathers—73 percent of noncustodial mothers compared with 58 percent of noncustodial fathers.

Paying child support was more common among noncustodial parents that had provisions to make contact with their children than noncustodial parents that had no provisions. Approximately 4.4 million noncustodial parents with visitation privileges and/or joint custody owed child support in 1991. Seventy-nine percent of these non-custodial parents paid all or part of it. By comparison, 56 percent of the 0.9 million noncustodial parents having no provisions, but owing child support, paid child support (see figure 5).

A higher percentage of noncustodial fathers with joint custody paid child support due (85 percent) than did fathers who had visitation privileges only (79 percent), or those who had neither joint custody nor visitation privileges (56 percent).⁸ On the other hand, the payment rate for noncustodial mothers with visitation privileges only, and the payment rate for those with joint-custody provisions, were not significantly different from one another (about 65 percent).⁹

Noncustodial Parent's Residence

Most noncustodial parents (66 percent) resided in the same State as their children with whom they did not live. Noncustodial mothers (71 percent) were slightly more likely than noncustodial fathers (65 percent) to do so. Comparable percentages of noncustodial mothers and fathers lived in different States from their children (about 19 percent). The remainder of noncustodial parents—15 percent of noncustodial fathers and 9 percent of noncustodial mothers—lived either overseas or at an unknown residence (see table C).

Child Support Received

The average (mean) child support amount received by custodial mothers receiving full or partial payments in 1991, \$3,011, was approximately one-third more than

⁴Reasons why child support payments were not supposed to be received in 1991 included: payments were awarded after the 1991 income year, death of the noncustodial parents occurred, or the child awarded payments became age-ineligible before 1991.

⁵The percentage of nonpoor women *awarded* child support (65 percent) was not significantly different from the percentage of nonpoor women *receiving* child support due in 1991 (78 percent).

⁶The percentage differences between Blacks and those of Hispanic origin were not statistically significant.

⁷There is no significant difference between the percentage of women college graduates (with bachelor's degree or more) *awarded* payments (73 percent) and the percentage of women college graduates *receiving* payments (75 percent).

⁸The April 1992 survey indicates the noncustodial parent has "visitation privileges," "joint custody," "both," or "none." The number of noncustodial parents "with joint custody" in this report refers to the those with joint custody and possibly visitation privileges.

⁹The universe of noncustodial mothers with neither visitation nor joint-custody provisions, 61,000, was too small to derive a reliable child support payment rate.

Table B. Child Support Award Status, Receipt, and Income of All Custodial Parents and Custodial Parents With Incomes Below Poverty Level in 1991 by Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS						
Total.....	11,502	(X)	9,918	(X)	1,584	(X)
With child support agreement or award	6,190	(X)	5,542	(X)	648	(X)
Supposed to receive payments in 1991	5,326	100.0	4,883	100.0	443	100.0
Actually received payments in 1991	4,006	75.2	3,728	76.3	278	62.8
Received the full amount due	2,742	51.5	2,552	52.3	189	42.7
Received partial payments	1,265	23.8	1,176	24.1	89	20.1
Received no payments in 1991	1,320	24.8	1,156	23.7	164	37.0
Mean Income and Child Support						
Received child support payments in 1991:						
Mean total money income	19,217	(X)	18,144	(X)	33,579	(X)
Mean child support received	2,961	(X)	3,011	(X)	2,292	(X)
Received the full amount due:						
Mean total money income	20,050	(X)	19,310	(X)	30,012	(X)
Mean child support received	3,543	(X)	3,618	(X)	2,536	(X)
Received partial payments:						
Mean total money income	17,411	(X)	15,611	(X)	41,163	(X)
Mean child support received	1,699	(X)	1,694	(X)	1,773	(X)
Received no payments in 1991:						
Mean total money income	15,919	(X)	14,602	(X)	25,184	(X)
Without child support agreement or award	5,312	(X)	4,376	(X)	936	(X)
Mean total money income	13,283	(X)	10,226	(X)	27,578	(X)
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY						
Total.....	3,720	(X)	3,513	(X)	207	(X)
With child support agreement or award	1,438	(X)	1,368	(X)	71	(X)
Supposed to receive payments in 1991	1,257	100.0	1,200	100.0	57	100.0
Actually received payments in 1991	859	68.3	845	70.4	14	24.6
Received the full amount due	499	39.7	497	41.4	2	3.5
Received partial payments	360	28.6	348	29.0	12	21.1
Received no payments in 1991	398	31.7	355	29.6	43	75.4
Mean Income and Child Support						
Received child support payments in 1991:						
Mean total money income	5,734	(X)	5,687	(X)	(B)	(X)
Mean child support received	1,910	(X)	1,922	(X)	(B)	(X)
Received the full amount due:						
Mean total money income	5,980	(X)	6,004	(X)	(B)	(X)
Mean child support received	2,670	(X)	2,660	(X)	(B)	(X)
Received partial payments:						
Mean total money income	5,392	(X)	5,235	(X)	(B)	(X)
Mean child support received	857	(X)	871	(X)	(B)	(X)
Received no payments in 1991:						
Mean total money income	5,399	(X)	5,525	(X)	(B)	(X)
Without child support agreement or award	2,282	(X)	2,145	(X)	136	(X)
Mean total money income	4,979	(X)	4,942	(X)	5,560	(X)

(X) Represents not applicable.

(B) Represents base less than 75,000.

Figure 5.
**Child Support Payment Status of Noncustodial Parents With
 and Without Visitation or Joint Custody: 1991**

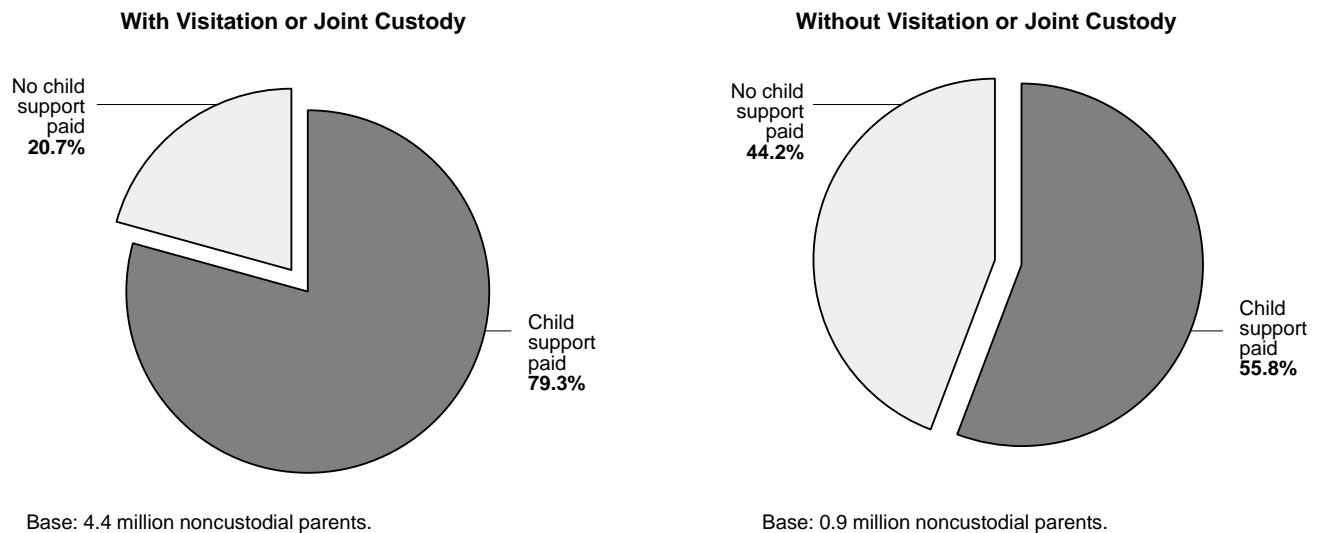


Table C. Custodial Parents by Sex Based on Residence, Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements, and Health Care Provisions of Noncustodial Parents

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS						
Total.....	11,502	100.0	9,918	100.0	1,584	100.0
Residence of Noncustodial Parent						
Same State as custodial parent.....	7,596	66.0	6,466	65.2	1,131	71.4
Different State	2,269	19.7	1,962	19.8	307	19.4
Other	355	3.1	328	3.3	28	1.8
Unknown	1,281	11.1	1,163	11.7	118	7.4
Visitation Privileges and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parents						
Visitation privileges only.....	4,957	43.1	4,319	43.5	638	40.3
Joint custody only	1,116	9.7	768	7.7	348	22.0
Visitation privileges and joint custody	823	7.2	661	6.7	162	10.2
Neither visitation privileges nor joint custody.....	4,607	40.1	4,172	42.1	436	27.5
Provisions of Healthcare by Noncustodial Parents						
Child support awarded	6,190	100.0	5,542	100.0	648	100.0
Health insurance included in award.....	2,552	41.2	2,271	41.0	281	43.4
Health insurance available.....	1,749	28.3	1,578	28.5	171	26.4
Health insurance not available ¹	802	13.0	692	12.5	110	17.0
Health insurance not included in agreement	3,638	58.8	3,271	59.0	367	56.6
Health insurance available.....	658	10.6	594	10.7	64	9.9
Health insurance not available ¹	2,981	48.2	2,678	48.3	303	46.8
Child support not awarded.....	5,312	100.0	4,376	100.0	936	100.0
Health insurance available.....	657	12.4	515	11.8	142	15.2
Health insurance not available ¹	4,655	87.6	3,862	88.3	793	84.7

¹Includes a small number of cases where custodial parents did not know about health insurance coverage by noncustodial parent.

that received by their male counterparts, \$2,292. Custodial mothers *with payments* received a larger share of their individual income from child support than did custodial fathers. On average, 17 percent of custodial mothers' income came from child support payments, compared with 7 percent of custodial fathers' income.

If all custodial parents due child support in 1991 had received the full amount, the share of their individual income composed of child support would have increased significantly. Specifically, 12 percent of income received by custodial parents (including those receiving none) was from child support—based on \$2,227 average child support income and \$18,399 total money income (see table 4). The amount of child support custodial parents stated was actually due them, \$3,321 on average, as a share of total money income that would have existed if all payments had been made in full, \$19,493, totalled 17 percent (see table 4).

While full payment of child support would have increased total money income of custodial parents owed support, the percentage of parents due child support whose family incomes fell below the poverty level would not have changed significantly. Approximately 24 percent of custodial parents due child support were in poverty in 1991, a figure not significantly different from that derived had all payments been made (21 percent) (see table 4).

Focusing on custodial women who received child support payments reveals that the share of their total money income coming from child support did not vary by race or Hispanic origin. However, the mean amounts sometimes did. The average amount of child support received by White women (\$3,193) receiving full or partial payment was about 52 percent higher than that of Black women (\$2,102) in 1991. The mean amount of child support received by women of Hispanic origin was \$2,200, not significantly different from that of Black women.

The mean child support payment received by divorced or separated women with full or partial payment was the highest (\$3,442), compared with currently-married or never-married women. Payments to currently-married women averaged \$2,831 and mean payments to never-married women was \$1,534 in 1991 (see table 2).

Women with at least a bachelor's degree that received all or part of the child support due in 1991 averaged \$4,861 for child support in 1991. That amount was twice that received by women with a high school diploma (\$2,589), and three times that received by custodial mothers with less than a high school diploma (\$1,686).

The mean child support payment received by poor women with child support payments in 1991 was \$1,922, 58 percent of the mean payment received by nonpoor women (\$3,331). Child support payments were 34 percent of the total money income of poor mothers, compared with 15 percent of nonpoor mothers, on average.

Total Money Income

Custodial parents who received child support actually were better off financially than those who did not receive support. The average total money income of custodial parents receiving child support due (\$19,217) was 21 percent higher than that received by parents who did not receive child support due (\$15,519) and 45 percent higher than that received by custodial parents with no child support award at all (\$13,283) (see table B).

While both custodial mothers and fathers benefited from child support, the higher payments received by custodial mothers did not help their total money income catch up with that of custodial fathers. Custodial mothers who received at least some portion of child support payments had a higher mean individual income, on average (\$18,144), than those that did not receive any payments due them (\$14,602) and those not awarded payments (\$10,226). Similarly, the mean income of custodial fathers who received child support payments was \$33,579, compared with about \$26,000 for both custodial fathers that did not receive any payments due them in 1991, and custodial fathers not awarded payments (\$25,184 and \$27,578, respectively) (see figure 6).¹⁰

Deficit in Child Support Payments

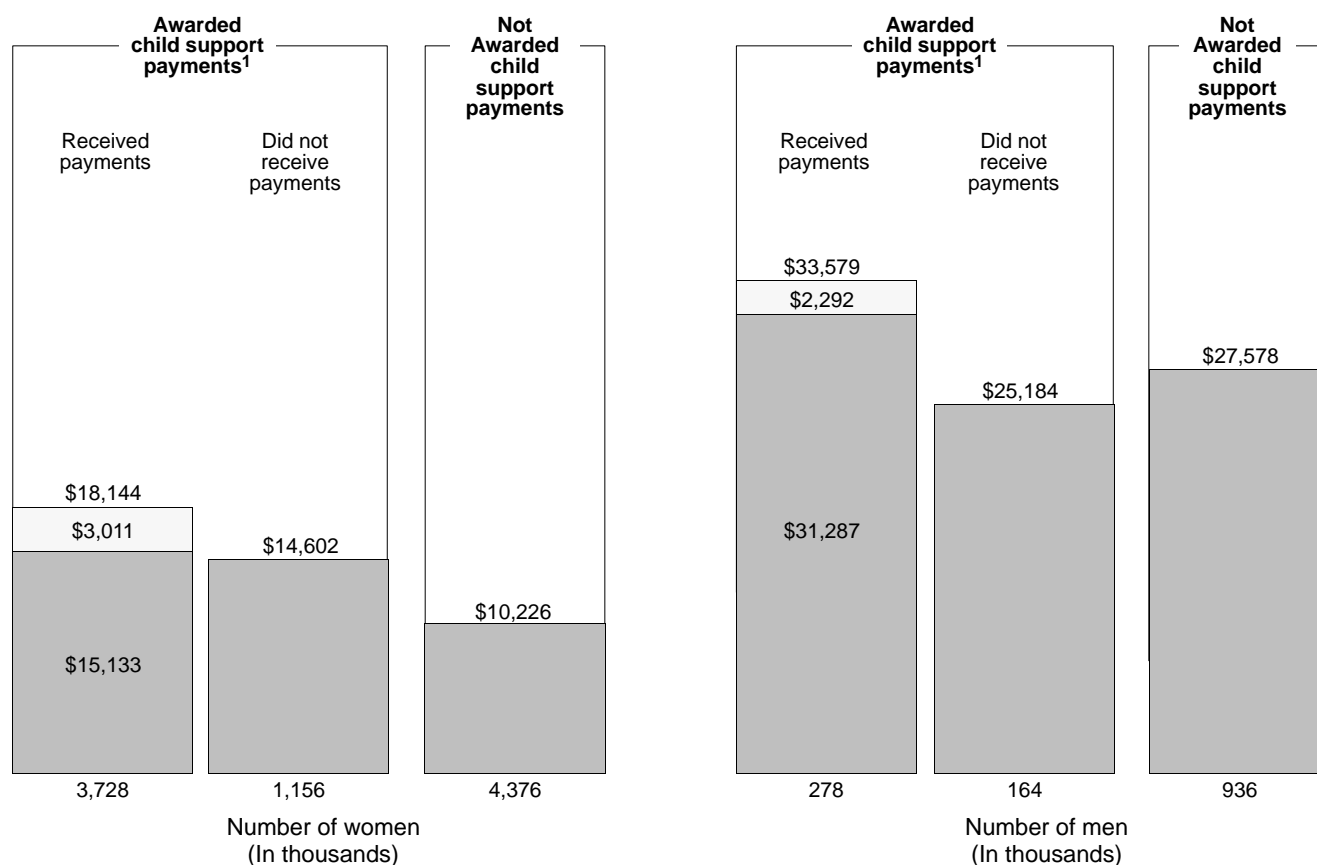
The mean amount of child support actually received by the 5.3 million custodial parents who were due payments (including the 1.3 million parents who received nothing) was \$2,227 in 1991. If the full amount of payment awarded had been received, the average amount would have been \$3,321, over \$1,000 more. The average deficit for both custodial mothers and fathers was a little over \$1,000; custodial mothers expecting to receive \$3,375, on average, received \$2,298.¹¹ Custodial fathers due to receive \$2,715 actually received \$1,442, on average (see table 4).

The aggregate amount of child support received was \$11.9 billion in 1991, 67 percent of the \$17.7 billion due. Custodial mothers received \$11.2 billion or 68.1 percent of the \$16.5 billion due, while custodial fathers received a slightly smaller percentage due them—53 percent of the \$1.2 billion due. The aggregate child support income deficit was \$5.8 billion, \$5.3 billion due to custodial mothers and \$0.5 billion due to custodial fathers (see table D).

¹⁰ Individual income refers to total money income received by the custodial parent, including any child support income.

¹¹ Child support amounts expected and received by mothers are comparable to those expected and received by custodial parents, respectively.

Figure 6.

Mean Income of Custodial Parents in 1991 by Child Support Award Status and Sex: 1991

¹ Excludes a small number who were awarded payments but were not supposed to receive them in 1991.

Table D. Child Support Payments Due and Actually Received by Sex: 1991

(Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parent as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents	Custodial mothers	Custodial fathers
Custodial Parents Due Child Support Payments			
Total (thous.) . .	5,326	4,883	443
Mean Payments			
Due (dols.) . .	3,321	3,375	2,715
Received	2,227	2,298	1,442
Deficit	1,094	1,077	1,273
Aggregate Payments			
Child support due . . . (bil. dols.) . .	17.7	16.5	1.2
Child support received	11.9	11.2	0.6
Aggregate child support deficit	5.8	5.3	0.6
Percent of aggregate due actually received	67.1	68.1	53.1

Award and Receipt of Child Support by Type of Arrangement

Approximately 72 percent of the women due child support payments in 1991 were expecting payments from a court order. An additional 23 percent of women had voluntary written agreements. ¹² Only 5 percent of women had some other type of agreement. The percentages of custodial fathers having each type of arrangement were comparable to custodial mothers (see table 6).

Specifically concerning custodial mothers, the mean amount of child support received by women with voluntary child support awards was \$3,597, one-third higher than the mean amount received by women with court-ordered agreements (\$2,811).

Inclusion of Health Care Benefits in Award

Of the 6.2 million parents awarded child support payments as of 1992, 41 percent had health insurance

¹²Voluntary written agreements are agreements not ordered by the courts. However, these agreements may have been recognized by the courts as part of the divorce or separation proceedings.

benefits included in their child support award. In 1991, only 69 percent of noncustodial parents that were required to provide health insurance benefits as part of the child support award actually did. These statistics did not vary significantly by sex of the custodial parent (see table 5). Health insurance benefits were also provided to 18 percent of the 3.6 million custodial parents who were not required to receive it as part of a child support award.

Survey responses by custodial mothers reveal that health insurance status varied by socioeconomic characteristics. For example, the rate that health insurance was included with child support awards for White custodial mothers was 44 percent compared with 26 percent for Black custodial mothers.¹³

Never-married women were much less likely than women of other marital statuses to have health insurance benefits included with their child support awards; 24 percent of never-married women had health insurance benefits included in their awards compared with 43 percent of ever-married women.

For poor women, the rate of including health insurance with child support awards was 35 percent, not significantly different from the rate for nonpoor women.

Use of Government Assistance in Obtaining Child Support

Of the 11.5 million women and men with children from noncustodial parents as of spring 1992, 4.0 million (35 percent) had, at some time(s), requested assistance

from a government agency for obtaining child support. More specifically, 38 percent (3.8 million) of custodial mothers had requested assistance and 15 percent (0.2 million) of custodial fathers had done so. Of the parents seeking aid, 2.5 million or 63 percent received it (see table E).

Approximately 2.3 million contacts, or 56 percent of the 4.1 million contacts to government agencies, were made by women who received assistance in locating the father, establishing paternity, or establishing support obligations. About 1.2 million (29 percent) contacts led to obtaining collection of child support, and 0.3 million contacts (7 percent) were made resulting in aid in obtaining health insurance. Approximately 1.4 million contacts were made where the government agencies did not provide aid.¹⁴

Reasons for Nonaward of Child Support

The two responses most common among custodial fathers to why they were not awarded child support were: (1) they did not want an award, and (2) they did not pursue obtaining an award (more than one response may have been given by each person to explain their nonaward status). Specifically, almost one-third of the custodial fathers who did not receive child support in 1991 (34 percent of 0.9 million) stated they did not want an award. A comparable percentage of custodial fathers stated the reason they did not receive an award was

¹³The percentage of Hispanic custodial mothers with awards *that had health insurance included* was too small to make reliable comparisons with Black and White custodial mothers.

¹⁴There was no significant difference in the number of contacts that led to obtaining collection of child support and the number of contacts where government agencies were unable to provide aid.

Table E. Custodial Parents Contacting Government Agencies for Assistance in Obtaining Child Support in 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Custodial parents requesting assistance	4,004	100.0	3,769	100.0	235	100.0
Received assistance	2,503	62.5	2,366	62.8	137	58.3
Did not receive assistance	1,501	37.5	1,403	37.2	98	41.7
Agency contacts where assistance was received ¹	4,277	100.0	4,080	100.0	196	100.0
Type of assistance received:						
Location of other parent	838	19.6	795	19.5	44	22.4
Establishment of paternity	291	6.8	291	7.1	(X)	(X)
Establishing a support obligation	1,307	30.6	1,257	30.8	50	25.5
Collection of child support due	1,301	30.4	1,247	30.6	54	27.6
Obtaining health insurance	301	7.0	290	7.1	11	5.6
Other types of assistance	239	5.6	202	5.0	37	18.9

(X) Represents not applicable.

¹Custodial parents may have made more than one type of contact.

Table F. Reasons for Nonaward of Child Support in 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Custodial parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Custodial parents		Custodial mothers		Custodial fathers	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total	11,502	(X)	9,918	(X)	1,584	(X)
Total without a child support award	5,312	100.0	4,376	100.0	936	100.0
Paternity not established	303	5.7	303	6.9	(X)	(X)
Other financial agreement made	292	5.5	238	5.4	54	5.8
Other parent lives in household	52	1.0	14	0.3	39	4.2
Did not pursue a child support award	1,807	34.0	1,515	34.6	293	31.3
Other parent unable to pay	875	16.5	705	16.1	171	18.3
Unable to locate other parent	930	17.5	895	20.5	35	3.7
Other reasons	753	14.2	650	14.9	103	11.0
Did not want child support	927	17.5	607	13.9	320	34.2

(X) Represents not applicable.

NOTE: Custodial parents may have given more than one reason.

because they had not pursued obtaining one (31 percent). The third most common reason custodial fathers gave for not receiving an award was that the noncustodial mother was financially unable to pay (18 percent) (see table F).¹⁵

Custodial mothers gave "did not pursue an award" as the most common reason (35 percent), and "unable to locate the father" as the second most common reason

(21 percent). The third most popular answer was that the noncustodial father was financially unable to pay (16 percent).

¹⁵There was no significant difference between the percentages of custodial fathers and custodial mothers that stated the noncustodial parent was unable to pay.

Table 1. Child Support Payments Agreed to or Awarded Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						Child support not awarded
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Received payments in 1991			Did not receive payments	
				Total	Full payments	Partial payments		
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS								
Total	11,502	6,190	5,326	4,006	2,742	1,265	1,320	5,312
Standard error	255	192	179	157	130	89	91	179
Current Marital Status								
Married	3,428	2,208	1,909	1,430	1,005	425	478	1,220
First marriage	955	448	376	289	195	95	86	507
Divorced, remarried	2,474	1,760	1,533	1,141	810	330	392	713
Divorced	3,599	2,477	2,190	1,673	1,134	540	517	1,122
Separated	1,705	755	597	441	310	131	156	950
Widowed ¹	85	39	30	17	17	-	14	47
Never married	2,685	712	600	446	276	169	154	1,973
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	8,319	5,035	4,357	3,340	2,330	1,011	1,017	3,283
White, not Hispanic origin	7,227	4,645	4,021	3,119	2,192	927	902	2,582
Black	2,886	1,009	834	577	357	220	257	1,877
Hispanic origin ²	1,160	410	356	233	144	89	123	750
Age								
15 to 17 years	92	11	6	6	3	3	-	82
18 to 29 years	3,197	1,321	1,175	820	472	348	355	1,876
30 to 39 years	5,058	2,997	2,647	1,990	1,365	625	657	2,061
40 years and over	3,154	1,862	1,499	1,190	901	289	308	1,293
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	2,559	838	711	487	319	167	225	1,721
High school graduate	4,695	2,614	2,287	1,743	1,162	581	544	2,081
Some college, no degree	2,250	1,403	1,219	877	637	240	342	847
Associate degree	729	490	420	318	210	108	102	239
Bachelor's degree or more	1,269	844	689	581	413	168	108	425
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent								
One	6,036	3,253	2,740	2,003	1,342	661	737	2,783
Two	3,565	2,103	1,860	1,418	1,008	410	442	1,462
Three	1,290	649	562	447	298	149	115	640
Four or more	612	185	164	138	94	44	25	427
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	3,720	1,438	1,257	859	499	360	398	2,282
Standard error	151	95	89	74	56	48	50	119
Current Marital Status								
Married	410	221	194	132	77	55	62	190
First marriage	193	85	70	53	31	22	17	108
Divorced, remarried	217	136	124	79	46	33	45	81
Divorced	935	514	472	315	169	146	157	420
Separated	874	333	274	183	111	72	91	540
Widowed ¹	14	8	4	1	1	-	3	6
Never married	1,487	362	313	227	141	86	86	1,126

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Child Support Payments Agreed to or Awarded Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						Child support not awarded
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Received payments in 1991			Did not receive payments	
				Total	Full payments	Partial payments		
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY—Con.								
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	2,134	962	858	562	315	247	296	1,172
White, not Hispanic origin	1,582	819	730	483	254	230	246	762
Black	1,478	438	364	270	168	103	93	1,040
Hispanic origin ²	591	152	138	84	67	17	54	439
Age								
15 to 17 years	61	5	3	3	-	3	-	55
18 to 29 years	1,529	545	486	334	172	162	152	984
30 to 39 years	1,555	664	577	397	235	162	180	891
40 years and over	575	224	191	125	91	34	66	351
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	1,549	442	382	242	136	106	140	1,107
High school graduate	1,489	667	612	450	261	189	162	822
Some college, no degree	468	226	177	107	70	37	70	241
Associate degree	117	52	46	26	13	13	19	65
Bachelor's degree or more	97	50	40	34	19	15	6	47
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent								
One	1,422	533	477	315	165	150	162	889
Two	1,152	492	415	265	156	109	150	660
Three	701	290	254	187	117	70	67	411
Four or more	445	123	111	92	61	31	18	322
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS								
Total	9,918	5,542	4,883	3,728	2,552	1,176	1,156	4,376
Standard error	239	183	172	151	126	86	85	163
Current Marital Status								
Married	2,707	1,888	1,679	1,273	897	377	406	820
First marriage	740	343	294	225	145	79	70	398
Divorced, remarried	1,967	1,545	1,385	1,048	751	297	336	422
Divorced	3,052	2,221	2,027	1,588	1,080	508	439	831
Separated	1,514	702	563	418	294	124	144	812
Widowed ¹	80	39	30	17	17	-	14	42
Never married	2,565	693	583	432	265	167	152	1,872
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	6,966	4,459	3,976	3,094	2,162	932	882	2,507
White, not Hispanic origin	5,993	4,112	3,672	2,884	2,029	855	788	1,881
Black	2,698	958	791	553	340	213	238	1,740
Hispanic origin ²	1,043	368	324	221	139	82	102	675
Age								
15 to 17 years	88	11	6	6	3	3	-	77
18 to 29 years	3,022	1,269	1,132	799	459	340	333	1,753
30 to 39 years	4,379	2,691	2,446	1,864	1,271	594	582	1,688
40 years and over	2,429	1,571	1,299	1,059	820	240	240	858

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Child Support Payments Agreed to or Awarded Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						Child support not awarded
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Received payments in 1991			Did not receive payments	
				Total	Full payments	Partial payments		
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS—Con.								
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	2,272	761	648	452	289	163	196	1,511
High school graduate	4,092	2,365	2,123	1,640	1,093	547	483	1,727
Some college, no degree	1,931	1,243	1,117	816	598	217	302	688
Associate degree	649	460	401	308	203	105	93	190
Bachelor's degree or more	974	713	594	512	369	143	82	260
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father								
One	5,090	2,884	2,502	1,850	1,226	623	653	2,206
Two	3,085	1,892	1,706	1,321	946	375	385	1,193
Three	1,166	587	514	420	285	134	95	579
Four or more	577	179	161	137	94	43	23	398
CUSTODIAL MOTHERS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	3,513	1,368	1,200	845	497	348	355	2,145
Standard error	147	93	87	73	56	47	48	116
Current Marital Status								
Married	338	187	169	124	75	49	45	151
First marriage	168	72	63	49	29	21	14	97
Divorced, remarried	170	115	106	75	46	29	31	54
Divorced	877	486	448	311	169	143	137	390
Separated	836	328	268	183	111	72	85	509
Widowed ¹	14	8	4	1	1	-	3	6
Never married	1,449	359	311	225	141	84	86	1,090
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	1,979	896	804	550	315	235	254	1,083
White, not Hispanic origin	1,455	766	687	471	254	218	216	689
Black	1,433	433	361	268	166	103	93	1,000
Hispanic origin ¹	563	140	126	84	67	17	42	423
Age								
15 to 17 years	58	5	3	3	-	3	-	53
18 to 29 years	1,472	534	474	331	172	159	143	938
30 to 39 years	1,455	621	539	387	233	154	152	834
40 years and over	528	207	184	124	91	33	60	320
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	1,452	419	362	237	136	101	124	1,032
High school graduate	1,419	632	582	442	259	184	139	787
Some college, no degree	449	220	173	107	70	37	66	230
Associate degree	109	52	46	26	13	13	19	57
Bachelor's degree or more	84	45	38	31	19	13	6	39
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father								
One	1,308	500	449	311	163	149	137	808
Two	1,097	470	398	258	156	102	141	627
Three	679	276	243	185	117	68	59	404
Four or more	429	122	110	91	61	30	18	306

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Child Support Payments Agreed to or Awarded Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						Child support not awarded
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Received payments in 1991			Did not receive payments	
				Total	Full payments	Partial payments		
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS								
Total	1,584	648	443	278	189	89	164	936
Standard error.....	100	64	53	42	135	24	32	77
Current Marital Status								
Married	721	320	230	157	109	49	72	401
First marriage	214	105	81	65	49	15	17	109
Divorced, remarried	507	215	148	92	59	33	56	292
Divorced	546	255	163	85	54	32	78	291
Separated	191	53	34	22	16	6	12	138
Widowed ¹	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Never married	120	19	16	14	11	2	2	101
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	1,352	576	381	246	168	78	135	776
White, not Hispanic origin	1,235	534	349	235	163	71	114	701
Black	188	51	43	24	17	7	19	137
Hispanic origin ²	118	42	32	12	5	7	20	75
Age								
15 to 17 years.....	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
18 to 29 years.....	175	52	43	22	14	8	21	123
30 to 39 years.....	679	306	200	126	94	32	75	373
40 years and over	725	290	199	131	82	49	68	435
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	286	77	63	35	30	5	28	209
High school graduate.....	603	249	163	102	69	33	61	354
Some college, no degree	319	160	102	62	39	23	40	159
Associate degree	80	31	19	10	8	2	9	49
Bachelor's degree or more.....	295	131	95	69	44	26	26	164
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Mother								
One	946	369	238	153	115	38	85	577
Two	480	211	154	97	61	36	57	269
Three	123	62	47	27	13	14	20	61
Four or more	35	6	3	1	-	1	2	29
CUSTODIAL FATHERS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	207	71	57	14	2	12	43	136
Standard error.....	36	21	19	10	4	9	16	29
Current Marital Status								
Married	73	34	25	8	2	6	17	39
First marriage	25	13	7	4	2	1	3	12
Divorced, remarried	47	21	19	5	-	5	14	27
Divorced	58	28	23	3	-	3	20	30
Separated	38	6	6	-	-	-	6	32
Widowed ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Never married	38	2	2	2	-	2	-	36

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Child Support Payments Agreed to or Awarded Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Child support agreed to or awarded							Child support not awarded
	Total	Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Received payments in 1991			Did not receive payments	
				Total	Full payments	Partial payments		
CUSTODIAL FATHERS BELOW POVERTY—Con.								
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White.....	154	66	55	12	-	12	43	89
White, not Hispanic origin.....	126	54	42	12	-	12	30	73
Black.....	45	5	2	2	2	-	-	40
Hispanic origin ²	28	12	12	-	-	-	12	16
Age								
15 to 17 years.....	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
18 to 29 years.....	57	11	11	2	-	2	9	46
30 to 39 years.....	100	42	39	11	2	9	28	57
40 years and over.....	47	17	7	1	-	1	6	31
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma.....	98	23	21	5	-	5	16	75
High school graduate.....	70	36	30	7	2	5	23	35
Some college, no degree.....	19	7	4	-	-	-	4	12
Associate degree.....	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Bachelor's degree or more.....	13	5	2	2	-	2	-	8
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Mother								
One.....	113	33	28	4	2	1	25	80
Two.....	55	22	17	7	-	7	9	33
Three.....	22	15	11	2	-	2	9	7
Four or more.....	17	1	1	1	-	1	-	16

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero.

¹Includes widowed persons whose previous marriage ended in divorce.

²Hispanic origin persons may be of any race.

Table 2. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support Received by Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991						Child support not awarded— Mean total money income	
		Received payments in 1991				Did not receive payments			
		Mean total money income		Total mean income from child support		Mean total money income			
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS									
Total	11,502	19,217	434	2,961	91	15,919	747	13,283	350
Standard error	255	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	3,428	18,327	811	2,799	157	15,406	1,318	16,148	819
First marriage	955	15,836	1,778	2,279	296	10,616	1,550	12,510	1,067
Divorced, remarried	2,474	18,959	909	2,931	181	16,461	1,557	18,732	1,148
Divorced	3,599	23,462	632	3,544	153	19,193	1,215	18,791	918
Separated	1,705	14,351	1,113	2,707	233	13,100	1,986	11,822	777
Widowed ¹	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	2,685	10,936	710	1,537	116	9,564	1,353	8,925	383
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	8,319	20,078	483	3,131	104	16,170	877	15,255	502
White, not Hispanic origin	7,227	20,502	503	3,196	110	16,515	961	16,912	607
Black	2,886	14,014	978	2,079	188	14,364	1,511	9,950	432
Hispanic origin ²	1,160	14,217	2,075	2,165	332	13,366	2,364	9,160	757
Age									
15 to 17 years	92	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	1,362	555
18 to 29 years	3,197	10,882	514	1,790	95	9,189	1,080	7,702	284
30 to 39 years	5,058	19,109	552	3,052	130	16,874	1,003	14,031	527
40 years and over	3,154	25,230	971	3,625	199	21,623	1,813	20,941	962
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	2,559	8,919	586	1,720	134	6,659	726	6,932	289
High school graduate	4,695	15,558	467	2,553	109	13,573	887	13,335	540
Some college, no degree	2,250	20,775	810	3,368	203	17,881	1,227	15,770	803
Associate degree	729	22,965	1,348	2,852	254	20,653	2,794	17,293	1,546
Bachelor's degree or more	1,269	34,397	1,674	4,666	372	36,369	4,584	31,530	1,947
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent									
One	6,036	18,596	551	2,370	101	17,282	1,057	14,653	528
Two	3,565	21,587	844	3,539	177	15,260	1,279	13,851	675
Three	1,290	16,905	1,172	3,580	307	10,336	1,251	9,731	671
Four or more	612	11,368	1,452	3,601	604	(B)	(B)	7,730	560
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	3,720	5,734	209	1,910	136	5,399	290	4,979	118
Standard error	151	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	410	4,062	639	1,492	231	(B)	(B)	4,170	437
First marriage	193	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	3,586	552
Divorced, remarried	217	5,183	926	1,591	325	(B)	(B)	4,950	678
Divorced	935	6,869	327	2,453	303	6,227	465	5,505	283
Separated	874	4,917	401	1,786	199	5,525	588	5,368	249
Widowed ¹	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	1,487	5,776	349	1,500	188	4,433	487	4,734	159

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support Received by Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991						Child support not awarded— Mean total money income	
		Received payments in 1991				Did not receive payments			
		Mean total money income		Total mean income from child support		Mean total money income			
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY—Con.									
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	2,134	5,571	257	1,839	141	5,606	340	5,175	168
White, not Hispanic origin	1,582	5,635	273	1,699	146	5,560	360	4,957	195
Black	1,478	6,200	404	2,106	334	4,900	609	4,774	184
Hispanic origin ²	591	5,022	970	2,580	568	(B)	(B)	5,594	407
Age									
15 to 17 years	61	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	1,529	5,450	278	1,390	145	4,265	392	4,597	160
30 to 39 years	1,555	6,323	338	2,042	190	6,533	427	5,711	202
40 years and over	575	4,740	531	2,919	560	(B)	(B)	4,859	285
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	1,549	5,367	373	1,257	138	4,899	466	4,505	164
High school graduate	1,489	5,890	290	2,201	218	4,981	467	5,317	202
Some college, no degree	468	5,603	597	1,811	239	(B)	(B)	5,589	360
Associate degree	117	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more	97	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent									
One	1,422	4,851	277	1,425	111	4,141	387	4,179	161
Two	1,152	5,699	364	1,949	215	5,898	433	4,879	205
Three	701	6,655	478	2,200	411	(B)	(B)	5,878	291
Four or more	445	6,979	813	2,863	570	(B)	(B)	6,244	384
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS									
Total	9,918	18,144	405	3,011	95	14,602	700	10,226	296
Standard error	239	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	2,707	15,852	673	2,831	165	13,730	1,198	10,718	813
First marriage	740	11,944	1,687	2,389	371	(B)	(B)	9,030	911
Divorced, remarried	1,967	16,690	725	2,926	183	14,578	1,387	12,310	1,313
Divorced	3,052	23,121	629	3,623	158	18,192	1,240	13,864	733
Separated	1,514	13,876	1,106	2,753	244	11,831	1,467	9,967	764
Widowed ¹	80	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	2,565	10,681	717	1,534	118	9,250	1,323	8,299	333
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	6,966	18,949	447	3,193	108	14,901	806	10,944	434
White, not Hispanic origin	5,993	19,360	463	3,261	114	15,113	874	12,021	552
Black	2,698	13,696	992	2,102	195	13,025	1,474	9,212	413
Hispanic origin ²	1,043	13,457	2,074	2,200	347	13,044	2,446	7,817	615
Age									
15 to 17 years	88	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	1,410	587
18 to 29 years	3,022	10,772	520	1,816	97	8,064	756	7,174	260
30 to 39 years	4,379	18,460	556	3,127	137	16,130	968	11,466	510
40 years and over	2,429	23,241	854	3,719	209	19,973	1,887	14,815	899

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support Received by Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991						Child support not awarded— Mean total money income	
		Received payments in 1991				Did not receive payments			
		Mean total money income		Total mean income from child support		Mean total money income			
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS									
—Con.									
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	2,272	8,062	537	1,686	128	5,844	620	5,758	222
High school graduate	4,092	14,813	454	2,589	114	13,252	929	10,755	518
Some college, no degree	1,931	20,235	803	3,479	216	17,076	1,266	12,622	685
Associate degree	649	22,872	1,347	2,883	258	18,278	2,311	13,635	1,205
Bachelor's degree or more	974	31,531	1,469	4,861	395	30,282	4,383	23,843	1,855
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father									
One	5,090	17,542	517	2,351	100	16,408	1,021	11,392	491
Two	3,085	20,281	765	3,655	187	12,904	1,069	10,090	488
Three	1,166	16,278	1,217	3,692	323	9,809	1,360	8,017	533
Four or more	577	11,388	1,463	3,624	608	(B)	(B)	7,388	502
CUSTODIAL MOTHERS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	3,513	5,687	207	1,922	138	5,525	302	4,942	122
Standard error	147	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	338	3,708	587	1,477	233	(B)	(B)	3,830	489
First marriage	168	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	3,506	583
Divorced, remarried	170	4,630	844	1,665	340	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced	877	6,889	329	2,474	305	6,504	483	5,411	291
Separated	836	4,917	401	1,786	199	5,795	590	5,280	260
Widowed ¹	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	1,449	5,725	348	1,515	189	4,433	487	4,772	163
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	1,979	5,475	252	1,869	143	5,817	359	5,110	176
White, not Hispanic origin	1,455	5,524	267	1,730	149	5,752	386	4,870	206
Black	1,433	6,246	403	2,083	335	4,900	609	4,769	187
Hispanic origin ²	563	5,022	970	2,580	568	(B)	(B)	5,550	418
Age									
15 to 17 years	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	1,472	5,413	277	1,399	146	4,440	400	4,573	163
30 to 39 years	1,455	6,276	333	2,058	193	6,658	457	5,665	212
40 years and over	528	4,705	532	2,939	564	(B)	(B)	4,830	300
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	1,452	5,196	347	1,274	140	4,800	465	4,438	170
High school graduate	1,419	5,879	291	2,206	221	5,260	504	5,288	205
Some college, no degree	449	5,603	597	1,811	239	(B)	(B)	5,628	374
Associate degree	109	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more	84	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father									
One	1,308	4,869	277	1,402	108	4,358	418	4,065	170
Two	1,097	5,553	345	1,995	220	5,863	423	4,796	206
Three	679	6,624	482	2,222	415	(B)	(B)	5,808	291
Four or more	429	6,957	821	2,889	575	(B)	(B)	6,414	391

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support Received by Custodial Parents by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991						Child support not awarded— Mean total money income	
		Received payments in 1991				Did not receive payments			
		Mean total money income		Total mean income from child support		Mean total money income			
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS									
Total	1,584	33,579	2,687	2,292	322	25,184	3,170	27,578	1,112
Standard error	100	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	721	38,375	4,016	2,536	504	(B)	(B)	27,258	1,439
First marriage	214	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	25,236	2,806
Divorced, remarried	507	44,707	5,886	2,982	822	(B)	(B)	28,013	1,669
Divorced	546	29,799	3,868	2,072	454	24,855	3,845	32,849	2,323
Separated	191	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	22,773	2,329
Widowed	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	120	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	20,495	3,675
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	1,352	34,245	2,952	2,360	357	24,490	3,769	29,176	1,250
White, not Hispanic origin	1,235	34,525	3,083	2,403	373	26,199	4,291	30,031	1,341
Black	188	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	19,279	2,268
Hispanic origin ²	118	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	21,209	3,759
Age									
15 to 17 years	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	175	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	15,229	1,874
30 to 39 years	679	28,736	2,490	1,943	222	22,681	4,399	25,633	1,357
40 years and over	725	41,305	4,842	2,865	634	(B)	(B)	33,028	1,872
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	286	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	15,413	1,371
High school graduate	603	27,475	2,395	1,976	303	(B)	(B)	25,925	1,443
Some college, no degree	319	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	29,428	2,285
Associate degree	80	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more	295	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	3,501
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Mother									
One	946	31,313	3,087	2,595	539	24,028	4,575	27,122	1,392
Two	480	39,368	5,764	1,958	309	31,050	(B)	(B)	(B)
Three	123	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Four or more	35	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
CUSTODIAL FATHERS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	207	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	5,560	457
Standard error	36	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

Universe too small to derive additional reliable estimates.

(B) Represents base less than 75,000.

(X) Represents not applicable.

¹Includes widowed persons whose previous marriage ended in divorce.

²Hispanic origin persons may be of any race.

Table 3. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support of Custodial Parents Receiving Full or Partial Payment Due by Selected Characteristics and Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total number	Supposed to receive child support in 1991							
		Received full payment in 1991				Received partial payment in 1991			
		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS									
Total	11,502	20,050	507	3,543	118	17,411	821	1,699	113
Standard error.....	255	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	3,428	18,419	855	3,253	192	18,110	1,833	1,726	246
First marriage	955	16,785	2,048	2,853	407	13,889	3,407	1,102	231
Divorced, remarried	2,474	18,811	938	3,349	217	19,322	2,133	1,905	308
Divorced	3,599	24,961	771	4,320	202	20,314	1,064	1,914	148
Separated	1,705	15,269	1,364	3,099	286	12,172	1,863	1,774	360
Widowed ¹	85	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	2,685	11,239	933	1,932	155	10,440	1,078	892	131
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	8,319	20,952	551	3,694	132	18,062	956	1,833	134
White, not Hispanic origin	7,227	21,415	568	3,760	139	18,340	1,019	1,862	141
Black	2,886	13,989	1,226	2,616	265	14,055	1,618	1,206	199
Hispanic origin ²	1,160	13,287	2,692	2,569	381	15,729	3,207	1,509	577
Age									
15 to 17 years.....	92	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years.....	3,197	12,072	732	2,310	137	9,267	664	1,085	90
30 to 39 years.....	5,058	20,137	692	3,646	170	16,866	879	1,755	142
40 years and over	3,154	24,162	978	4,038	231	28,566	2,554	2,334	360
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	2,559	9,795	783	2,161	175	7,248	776	881	144
High school graduate.....	4,695	16,677	587	3,107	145	13,318	736	1,445	112
Some college, no degree	2,250	21,148	969	3,905	256	19,786	1,456	1,943	234
Associate degree	729	23,048	1,738	3,475	335	22,801	2,081	1,636	264
Bachelor's degree or more.....	1,269	34,245	1,691	5,312	452	34,770	4,024	3,083	598
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent									
One	6,036	19,510	652	2,776	121	16,742	1,007	1,545	169
Two	3,565	22,199	939	4,220	231	20,085	1,781	1,867	152
Three	1,290	17,550	1,500	4,277	399	15,611	1,820	2,181	392
Four or more	612	12,641	1,913	4,901	763	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	3,720	5,980	280	2,670	208	5,392	309	857	77
Standard error.....	151	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	410	3,922	825	2,071	340	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
First marriage	193	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced, remarried	217	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced	935	7,312	518	3,773	495	6,359	361	934	102
Separated	874	5,274	535	2,242	262	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Widowed ¹	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	1,487	6,048	340	2,024	263	5,335	723	647	142

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support of Custodial Parents Receiving Full or Partial Payment Due by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total number	Supposed to receive child support in 1991							
		Received full payment in 1991				Received partial payment in 1991			
		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY—Con.									
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	2,134	5,780	345	2,593	212	5,303	381	875	99
White, not Hispanic origin	1,582	6,056	384	2,510	232	5,170	380	804	94
Black	1,478	6,558	530	2,897	499	5,614	605	813	129
Hispanic origin ²	591	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Age									
15 to 17 years	61	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	1,529	5,727	356	1,944	243	5,156	427	800	101
30 to 39 years	1,555	6,757	452	2,910	270	5,692	493	780	115
40 years and over	575	4,453	638	3,420	739	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	1,549	5,225	468	1,872	193	5,549	602	467	77
High school graduate	1,489	6,272	395	3,015	339	5,363	413	1,078	126
Some college, no degree	468	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Associate degree	117	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more	97	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent									
One	1,422	4,897	345	1,938	158	4,801	441	861	110
Two	1,152	5,820	456	2,616	316	5,526	597	995	165
Three	701	6,719	623	3,033	611	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Four or more	445	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS									
Total	9,918	19,310	508	3,618	125	15,611	641	1,694	103
Standard error	239	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	2,707	16,668	821	3,339	212	13,909	1,148	1,621	197
First marriage	740	13,632	2,167	3,087	528	8,856	2,553	1,111	266
Divorced, remarried	1,967	17,255	881	3,388	232	15,259	1,250	1,758	238
Divorced	3,052	24,738	786	4,398	209	19,684	984	1,973	155
Separated	1,514	15,065	1,366	3,143	300	11,064	1,773	1,833	375
Widowed ¹	80	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	2,565	10,834	943	1,931	159	10,439	1,094	903	132
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	6,966	20,168	552	3,783	140	16,124	722	1,824	122
White, not Hispanic origin	5,993	20,620	568	3,856	148	16,372	760	1,849	125
Black	2,698	13,875	1,264	2,652	276	13,409	1,599	1,224	205
Hispanic origin ²	1,043	12,993	2,741	2,590	390	14,250	3,093	1,535	623
Age									
15 to 17 years	88	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	3,022	11,973	740	2,340	141	9,151	674	1,108	92
30 to 39 years	4,379	19,416	698	3,744	181	16,413	884	1,805	148
40 years and over	2,429	23,322	992	4,143	249	22,965	1,647	2,269	309

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support of Custodial Parents Receiving Full or Partial Payment Due by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total number	Supposed to receive child support in 1991							
		Received full payment in 1991				Received partial payment in 1991			
		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS —Con.									
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	2,272	8,630	711	2,131	165	7,054	776	895	148
High school graduate.	4,092	15,864	568	3,142	152	12,717	728	1,487	117
Some college, no degree	1,931	20,799	945	4,004	270	18,680	1,506	2,034	255
Associate degree	649	23,094	1,733	3,518	342	22,444	2,092	1,660	269
Bachelor's degree or more.	974	33,386	1,794	5,619	495	26,736	2,362	2,903	502
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father									
One	5,090	18,787	647	2,803	128	15,092	830	1,462	134
Two	3,085	21,363	943	4,323	244	17,549	1,233	1,968	162
Three	1,166	16,953	1,529	4,357	412	14,846	1,960	2,280	430
Four or more	577	12,641	1,913	4,901	763	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
CUSTODIAL MOTHERS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	3,513	6,004	280	2,660	209	5,235	298	871	80
Standard error.	147	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	338	4,020	840	1,986	334	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
First marriage	168	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced, remarried	170	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced	877	7,312	518	3,773	495	6,390	364	944	104
Separated	836	5,274	535	2,242	262	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Widowed ¹	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	1,449	6,048	340	2,024	263	5,183	724	662	145
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White.	1,979	5,780	345	2,593	212	5,065	361	896	103
White, not Hispanic origin.	1,455	6,056	384	2,510	232	4,905	354	822	98
Black	1,433	6,637	527	2,870	505	5,614	605	813	129
Hispanic origin ²	563	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Age									
15 to 17 years.	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years.	1,472	5,727	356	1,944	243	5,073	424	810	102
30 to 39 years.	1,455	6,815	451	2,891	272	5,457	463	793	121
40 years and over	528	4,453	638	3,420	739	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	1,452	5,225	468	1,872	193	5,157	518	470	81
High school graduate.	1,419	6,320	394	2,998	342	5,258	415	1,093	129
Some college, no degree	449	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Associate degree	109	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more.	84	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Father									
One	1,308	4,955	343	1,897	152	4,775	443	859	111
Two	1,097	5,820	456	2,616	316	5,143	519	1,041	174
Three	679	6,719	623	3,033	611	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Four or more	429	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Mean Total Money Income and Child Support of Custodial Parents Receiving Full or Partial Payment Due by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total number	Supposed to receive child support in 1991							
		Received full payment in 1991				Received partial payment in 1991			
		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support		Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
		Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS									
Total	1,584	30,012	2,293	2,536	254	41,163	6,630	1,773	841
Standard error.....	100	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Current Marital Status									
Married	721	32,885	3,197	2,537	281	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
First marriage	214	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced, remarried	507	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Divorced	546	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Separated	191	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Widowed ¹	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Never married	120	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Race and Hispanic Origin									
White	1,352	31,040	2,445	2,552	273	41,116	7,482	1,949	951
White, not Hispanic origin	1,235	31,305	2,497	2,570	280	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Black	188	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Hispanic origin ²	118	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Age									
15 to 17 years	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
18 to 29 years	175	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
30 to 39 years	679	29,878	2,957	2,319	258	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
40 years and over	725	32,574	3,809	2,993	487	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Educational Attainment									
Less than high school diploma	286	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
High school graduate	603	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Some college, no degree	319	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Associate degree	80	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Bachelor's degree or more	295	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Mother									
One	946	27,208	2,912	2,490	343	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Two	480	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Three	123	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Four or more	35	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
CUSTODIAL FATHERS BELOW POVERTY									
Total	207	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.....	36	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

Universe too small to derive additional reliable estimates

(B) Represents base less than 75,000. (X) Represents not applicable.

¹Includes widowed persons whose previous marriage ended in divorce.

²Hispanic origin persons may be of any race.

Table 4. Receipt of Child Support Payments Due Custodial Parents in 1991 by Type of Child Support Arrangement and Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total due payments		Amount of child support due in 1991							
	Number	Standard error	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$1,499	\$1,500 to \$1,999	\$2,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$6,999	\$7,000 and over
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS										
All Payments¹										
Total payments received in 1991	5,326	179	153	544	759	616	1,027	1,313	449	464
0.0 percent.	1,320	91	56	133	271	184	288	239	72	77
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	325	45	6	41	43	56	54	90	24	13
25.0 to 49.9 percent	313	45	2	31	62	27	77	59	26	28
50.0 to 74.9 percent	342	47	15	42	26	42	47	108	24	39
75.0 to 99.9 percent	285	43	8	13	33	16	65	74	39	36
100.0 percent and over.	2,742	130	66	283	325	292	496	744	264	271
Mean income from child support ²	2,227	(X)	149	435	647	969	1,445	2,602	4,118	8,106
Standard error.	75	(X)	21	25	36	56	59	79	189	548
Mean total money income	18,399	(X)	16,356	13,206	16,136	14,064	16,623	20,500	23,631	27,545
Standard error.	377	(X)	2,143	1,010	869	823	710	901	1,272	1,364
Number below poverty level.	1,257	(X)	56	213	206	167	234	243	76	62
Standard error.	125	(X)	27	52	51	46	54	55	31	28
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,321	(X)	275	705	1,232	1,730	2,423	3,764	5,680	11,367
Standard error.	84	(X)	18	11	7	9	12	29	44	558
Mean total money income	19,493	(X)	16,482	13,476	16,722	14,825	17,600	21,661	25,193	30,805
Standard error.	380	(X)	2,143	1,010	869	815	707	895	1,267	1,366
Number below poverty	1,117	(X)	56	210	196	155	194	210	55	40
Standard error.	118	(X)	27	51	50	44	49	51	26	23
Court-Awarded Payments										
Total payments received in 1991	3,800	153	103	380	556	464	749	945	316	287
0.0 percent.	1,114	84	44	116	224	158	245	199	68	61
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	272	42	5	37	35	43	48	75	24	5
25.0 to 49.9 percent	246	40	2	24	59	24	65	36	19	17
50.0 to 74.9 percent	284	43	10	37	23	34	36	103	12	29
75.0 to 99.9 percent	221	38	7	7	30	16	46	63	31	20
100.0 percent and over.	1,662	102	34	160	185	189	308	468	162	156
Mean income from child support ²	1,967	(X)	139	373	563	874	1,297	2,420	3,674	7,594
Standard error.	82	(X)	26	30	42	65	70	94	239	678
Mean total money income	17,443	(X)	17,017	11,197	16,285	13,661	15,888	19,120	23,073	26,562
Standard error.	409	(X)	2,810	905	1,022	891	777	909	1,518	1,657
Number below poverty level.	943	(X)	34	163	137	133	195	189	44	50
Standard error.	109	(X)	21	45	42	41	50	49	23	25
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,206	(X)	305	707	1,231	1,730	2,429	3,746	5,651	11,314
Standard error.	92	(X)	19	13	8	11	14	35	52	672
Mean total money income	18,682	(X)	17,184	11,531	16,953	14,517	17,020	20,445	25,050	30,281
Standard error.	412	(X)	2,807	908	1,027	881	774	899	1,516	1,620
Number below poverty level.	826	(X)	34	160	131	121	160	161	29	30
Standard error.	102	(X)	21	45	41	39	45	45	19	20

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Receipt of Child Support Payments Due Custodial Parents in 1991 by Type of Child Support Arrangement and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total due payments		Amount of child support due in 1991							
	Number	Standard error	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$1,499	\$1,500 to \$1,999	\$2,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$6,999	\$7,000 and over
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS										
—Con.										
Voluntary Written Agreement										
Total payments received in 1991	1,256	89	45	115	145	122	230	319	113	167
0.0 percent.	146	30	(B)	12	29	15	33	27	3	16
0.1 percent to 24.9 percent	40	16	(B)	4	1	11	6	13	-	5
25.0 to 49.9 percent	61	20	(B)	8	4	2	8	20	7	11
50.0 to 74.9 percent	53	18	(B)	5	3	8	8	5	10	10
75.0 to 99.9 percent	59	19	(B)	6	3	-	19	7	8	16
100.0 percent and over.	897	75	(B)	81	105	87	156	248	85	109
Mean income from child support ²	3,095	(X)	(B)	580	933	1,335	1,879	3,131	5,145	9,013
Standard error.	187	(X)	(B)	46	72	108	107	137	242	945
Mean total money income	22,486	(X)	(B)	21,052	18,410	15,911	18,711	25,672	26,450	30,052
Standard error.	946	(X)	(B)	3,307	2,107	2,168	1,647	2,443	2,593	2,411
Number below poverty level.	208	(X)	(B)	23	37	23	29	42	24	12
Standard error.	51	(X)	(B)	17	22	17	19	23	17	12
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,819	(X)	(B)	722	1,228	1,752	2,421	3,779	5,753	11,394
Standard error.	211	(X)	(B)	21	17	18	24	58	91	1,015
Mean total money income	23,210	(X)	(B)	21,194	18,704	16,329	19,253	26,321	27,058	32,433
Standard error.	958	(X)	(B)	3,308	2,088	2,173	1,647	2,456	2,573	2,500
Number below poverty level.	192	(X)	(B)	23	35	23	29	37	18	9
Standard error.	49	(X)	(B)	17	21	17	19	22	15	11
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS										
All Payments¹										
Total payments received in 1991	4,883	172	138	500	671	549	942	1,220	418	445
0.0 percent.	1,156	85	56	126	239	154	252	201	59	69
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	307	44	4	37	40	56	45	88	24	13
25.0 to 49.9 percent	278	42	-	29	46	24	76	49	26	28
50.0 to 74.9 percent	316	45	13	37	23	40	41	99	24	39
75.0 to 99.9 percent	274	42	6	13	32	16	62	74	39	33
100.0 percent and over.	2,552	126	59	257	291	259	466	708	247	265
Mean income from child support ²	2,298	(X)	142	432	655	977	1,481	2,666	4,186	8,118
Standard error.	79	(X)	22	26	39	59	61	81	191	552
Mean total money income	17,306	(X)	15,104	11,464	14,302	13,180	16,019	19,109	22,394	27,160
Standard error.	353	(X)	2,249	815	800	785	719	768	1,177	1,371
Number below poverty level.	1,200	(X)	56	209	198	153	225	224	72	62
Standard error.	123	(X)	27	51	50	44	53	53	30	28
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,375	(X)	272	707	1,236	1,730	2,426	3,775	5,682	11,334
Standard error.	89	(X)	19	11	8	10	13	30	47	572
Mean total money income	18,383	(X)	15,234	11,739	14,884	13,933	16,965	20,218	23,890	30,376
Standard error.	356	(X)	2,250	814	801	780	715	757	1,148	1,375
Number below poverty	1,071	(X)	56	206	189	144	188	194	53	40
Standard error.	116	(X)	27	51	49	43	49	49	26	23

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Receipt of Child Support Payments Due Custodial Parents in 1991 by Type of Child Support Arrangement and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total due payments		Amount of child support due in 1991							
	Number	Standard error	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$1,499	\$1,500 to \$1,999	\$2,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$6,999	\$7,000 and over
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS										
—Con.										
Court-Awarded Payments										
Total payments received in 1991	3,501	147	90	354	488	423	703	876	289	278
0.0 percent.	998	79	44	110	195	138	225	172	55	59
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	255	40	3	33	33	43	41	74	24	5
25.0 to 49.9 percent.	221	38	-	21	45	22	64	34	19	16
50.0 to 74.9 percent.	264	41	10	37	20	32	30	94	12	29
75.0 to 99.9 percent.	213	37	4	7	29	16	46	63	31	17
100.0 percent and over.	1,549	99	28	145	167	172	297	440	148	153
Mean income from child support ²	2,009	(X)	126	369	576	879	1,328	2,459	3,748	7,432
Standard error.	85	(X)	27	31	45	68	72	97	245	672
Mean total money income	16,528	(X)	15,549	10,163	13,732	13,426	15,836	18,249	21,321	25,913
Standard error.	394	(X)	3,046	818	877	913	818	857	1,346	1,609
Number below poverty level.	895	(X)	34	159	132	121	187	174	39	50
Standard error.	106	(X)	21	45	41	39	49	47	22	25
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,247	(X)	305	706	1,237	1,728	2,436	3,759	5,647	11,201
Standard error.	97	(X)	21	14	9	11	15	36	55	675
Mean total money income	17,766	(X)	15,727	10,500	14,393	14,275	16,943	19,550	23,220	29,682
Standard error.	399	(X)	3,045	820	884	905	813	847	1,307	1,585
Number below poverty level.	788	(X)	34	156	126	112	155	148	27	30
Standard error.	100	(X)	21	44	40	38	44	43	18	20
Voluntary Written Agreement										
Total payments received in 1991	1,139	85	43	102	132	103	199	294	109	157
0.0 percent.	106	26	(B)	11	26	8	23	15	3	9
0.1 percent to 24.9 percent	38	16	(B)	4	1	11	4	13	-	5
25.0 to 49.9 percent	52	18	(B)	8	1	2	8	13	7	11
50.0 to 74.9 percent	47	17	(B)	-	3	8	8	5	10	10
75.0 to 99.9 percent	57	19	(B)	6	3	-	16	7	8	16
100.0 percent and over.	840	73	(B)	73	97	75	139	241	81	106
Mean income from child support ²	3,263	(X)	(B)	586	939	1,388	1,946	3,282	5,135	9,361
Standard error.	201	(X)	(B)	49	76	109	108	129	250	965
Mean total money income	20,840	(X)	(B)	17,313	18,454	13,165	16,416	22,618	26,311	30,206
Standard error.	838	(X)	(B)	2,476	2,221	1,701	1,569	1,801	2,569	2,535
Number below poverty level.	201	(X)	(B)	23	35	23	29	38	24	12
Standard error.	50	(X)	(B)	17	21	17	19	22	17	12
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	3,909	(X)	(B)	730	1,224	1,751	2,413	3,780	5,764	11,501
Standard error.	229	(X)	(B)	23	18	19	27	61	94	1,074
Mean total money income	21,486	(X)	(B)	17,458	18,739	13,528	16,883	23,117	26,940	32,346
Standard error.	847	(X)	(B)	2,476	2,200	1,702	1,558	1,785	2,549	2,617
Number below poverty level.	186	(X)	(B)	23	33	23	29	34	18	9
Standard error.	49	(X)	(B)	17	20	17	19	21	15	11

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Receipt of Child Support Payments Due Custodial Parents in 1991 by Type of Child Support Arrangement and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total due payments		Amount of child support due in 1991							
	Number	Standard error	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$1,499	\$1,500 to \$1,999	\$2,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$6,999	\$7,000 and over
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS										
All Payments¹										
Total payments received in 1991	443	53	15	44	88	67	85	93	31	19
0.0 percent.	164	(B)	(B)	(B)	31	(B)	37	38	(B)	(B)
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	18	(B)	(B)	(B)	3	(B)	9	1	(B)	(B)
25.0 to 49.9 percent	34	(B)	(B)	(B)	16	(B)	1	9	(B)	(B)
50.0 to 74.9 percent	26	(B)	(B)	(B)	2	(B)	6	9	(B)	(B)
75.0 to 99.9 percent	11	(B)	(B)	(B)	2	(B)	3	-	(B)	(B)
100.0 percent and over.	189	35	(B)	(B)	34	(B)	30	36	(B)	(B)
Mean income from child support ²	1,442	(X)	(B)	(B)	586	(B)	1,054	1,775	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	222	(X)	(B)	(B)	100	(B)	209	313	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	30,466	(X)	(B)	(B)	30,136	(B)	23,297	38,657	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	2,086	(X)	(B)	(B)	3,371	(B)	2,874	6,944	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty level.	57	(X)	(B)	(B)	7	(B)	8	19	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	27	(X)	(B)	(B)	10	(B)	10	16	(B)	(B)
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	2,715	(X)	(B)	(B)	1,202	(B)	2,381	3,623	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	225	(X)	(B)	(B)	14	(B)	38	89	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	31,739	(X)	(B)	(B)	30,752	(B)	24,624	40,506	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	2,099	(X)	(B)	(B)	3,373	(B)	2,860	6,944	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty	46	(X)	(B)	(B)	7	(B)	5	16	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	24	(X)	(B)	(B)	10	(B)	8	14	(B)	(B)
Court-Awarded Payments										
Total payments received in 1991	299	44	13	27	68	41	46	68	27	9
0.0 percent.	116	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
0.1 to 24.9 percent.	17	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
25.0 to 49.9 percent	25	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
50.0 to 74.9 percent	19	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
75.0 to 99.9 percent	8	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
100.0 percent and over.	114	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean income from child support ²	1,477	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	300	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	28,164	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	2,094	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty level.	48	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	25	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	2,727	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	296	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	29,414	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	2,102	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty level.	37	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error.	22	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Receipt of Child Support Payments Due Custodial Parents in 1991 by Type of Child Support Arrangement and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total due payments		Amount of child support due in 1991							
	Number	Standard error	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$1,499	\$1,500 to \$1,999	\$2,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$6,999	\$7,000 and over
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS										
—Con.										
Voluntary Written Agreement										
Total payments received in 1991	117	27	2	13	13	19	31	25	4	10
0.0 percent	40	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
0.1 percent to 24.9 percent	1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
25.0 to 49.9 percent	9	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
50.0 to 74.9 percent	6	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
75.0 to 99.9 percent	3	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
100.0 percent and over	57	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean income from child support ²	1,466	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	338	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	38,485	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	5,421	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty level	6	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	9	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
If Full Amount of Payments Were Received in 1991										
Mean income from child support	2,949	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	379	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mean total money income	39,968	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	5,458	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Number below poverty level	6	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	9	(X)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

(B) Represents base less than 75,000.

(X) Represents not applicable.

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero.

¹Includes a small number of custodial parents whose arrangement type was "other" not shown separately.

²Mean amount based on custodial parents due payments, whether or not payments were received.

Table 5. Child Support Award Status and Inclusion of Health Insurance Benefits to Custodial Parents in 1991 by Selected Characteristics and Sex

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parent as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Awarded child support payments							Not awarded child support payments		
		Total	Health insurance currently included in agreement			Health insurance currently not included in agreement					
			Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Health insurance available from absent parent	
				Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance		Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance		Total	Percent with health insurance
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS											
Total	11,502	6,190	2,552	1,749	68.5	3,638	658	18.1	5,312	657	12.4
Standard error	255	192	126	105	(X)	150	65	(X)	179	65	(X)
Current Marital Status											
Married	3,428	2,208	885	628	71.0	1,323	235	17.7	1,220	173	14.2
First marriage	955	448	183	141	76.7	265	35	13.1	507	59	11.6
Divorced, remarried	2,474	1,760	702	488	69.5	1,058	200	18.9	713	114	16.0
Divorced	3,599	2,477	1,158	779	67.2	1,318	268	20.3	1,122	163	14.5
Separated	1,705	755	334	245	73.5	421	80	19.1	950	157	16.6
Widowed ¹	85	39	7	2	36.4	32	8	24.0	47	10	22.3
Never married	2,685	712	168	94	56.0	543	67	12.4	1,973	153	7.8
Race and Hispanic Origin											
White	8,319	5,035	2,218	1,525	68.8	2,818	533	18.9	3,283	479	14.6
White, not Hispanic origin . . .	7,227	4,645	2,105	1,457	69.2	2,540	504	19.9	2,582	429	16.6
Black	2,886	1,009	267	175	65.6	743	118	15.9	1,877	154	8.2
Hispanic origin ²	1,160	410	116	68	59.0	294	29	9.7	750	53	7.0
Age											
15 to 17 years	92	11	-	-	-	11	2	19.4	82	-	-
18 to 29 years	3,197	1,321	423	265	62.8	898	120	13.4	1,876	137	7.3
30 to 39 years	5,058	2,997	1,338	907	67.8	1,659	321	19.3	2,061	297	14.4
40 years and over	3,154	1,862	791	576	72.8	1,070	215	20.1	1,293	224	17.3
Educational Attainment											
Less than high school diploma	2,559	838	233	120	51.7	606	43	7.1	1,721	64	3.7
High school graduate	4,695	2,614	1,081	751	69.5	1,533	237	15.4	2,081	254	12.2
Some college, no degree	2,250	1,403	621	422	68.1	783	196	25.1	847	159	18.8
Associate degree	729	490	199	157	78.5	291	62	21.4	239	33	13.8
Bachelor's degree or more	1,269	844	418	299	71.5	426	120	28.1	425	148	34.8
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent											
One	6,036	3,253	1,246	866	69.5	2,007	387	19.3	2,783	362	13.0
Two	3,565	2,103	965	661	68.4	1,138	212	18.7	1,462	191	13.1
Three	1,290	649	250	165	65.9	399	46	11.4	640	80	12.4
Four or more	612	185	91	58	64.1	95	13	13.6	427	25	5.8
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS											
Total	9,918	5,542	2,271	1,578	69.5	3,271	594	18.1	4,376	515	11.8
Standard error	239	183	119	100	(X)	142	61	(X)	163	57	(X)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Child Support Award Status and Inclusion of Health Insurance Benefits to Custodial Parents in 1991 by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parent as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Awarded child support payments							Not awarded child support payments		
		Total	Health insurance currently included in agreement				Health insurance currently not included in agreement			Health insurance available from absent parent	
			Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Percent with health insurance
				Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance			Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance		
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS—Con.											
Current Marital Status											
Married	2,707	1,888	752	541	71.9	1,136	210	18.5	820	108	13.1
First marriage	740	343	126	98	77.8	216	23	10.6	398	39	9.8
Divorced, remarried	1,967	1,545	626	443	70.7	919	187	20.4	422	69	16.3
Divorced	3,052	2,221	1,044	715	68.5	1,177	238	20.3	831	127	15.3
Separated	1,514	702	300	226	75.2	402	74	18.5	812	134	16.5
Widowed ¹	80	39	7	2	36.4	32	8	24.0	42	10	25.0
Never married	2,565	693	167	94	56.2	525	62	11.9	1,872	136	7.3
Race and Hispanic Origin											
White	6,966	4,459	1,967	1,381	70.2	2,492	473	19.0	2,507	357	14.3
White, not Hispanic origin	5,993	4,112	1,863	1,318	70.8	2,249	450	20.0	1,881	318	16.9
Black	2,698	958	249	161	64.4	709	114	16.0	1,740	138	7.9
Hispanic origin ²	1,043	368	107	62	58.0	261	23	8.8	675	42	6.3
Age											
15 to 17 years	88	11	-	-	-	11	2	19.4	77	-	-
18 to 29 years	3,022	1,269	405	255	62.9	864	115	13.3	1,753	130	7.4
30 to 39 years	4,379	2,691	1,205	821	68.2	1,486	285	19.2	1,688	240	14.2
40 years and over	2,429	1,571	661	502	76.0	910	192	21.1	858	145	16.9
Educational Attainment											
Less than high school diploma	2,272	761	222	116	52.3	539	41	7.7	1,511	49	3.3
High school graduate	4,092	2,365	973	682	70.1	1,392	212	15.2	1,727	210	12.2
Some college, no degree	1,931	1,243	562	400	71.1	681	174	25.6	688	125	18.2
Associate degree	649	460	185	142	76.9	275	58	21.0	190	27	14.2
Bachelor's degree or more	974	713	329	238	72.3	384	109	28.3	260	104	40.0
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent											
One	5,090	2,884	1,078	772	71.6	1,806	351	19.4	2,206	266	12.1
Two	3,085	1,892	868	595	68.5	1,024	195	19.1	1,193	152	12.7
Three	1,166	587	234	153	65.5	353	39	11.1	579	75	13.0
Four or more	577	179	91	58	64.1	89	8	9.1	398	22	5.6
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS											
Total	1,584	648	281	171	60.9	367	64	17.6	936	142	15.2
Standard error	100	64	42	33	(X)	48	20	(X)	77	30	(X)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Child Support Award Status and Inclusion of Health Insurance Benefits to Custodial Parents in 1991 by Selected Characteristics and Sex—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Persons 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parent as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Awarded child support payments							Not awarded child support payments		
		Total	Health insurance currently included in agreement			Health insurance currently not included in agreement					
			Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Health insurance available from absent parent		Total	Health insurance available from absent parent	
				Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance		Total	Percent of agreements with health insurance		Total	Percent with health insurance
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS —Con.											
Current Marital Status											
Married	721	320	133	88	65.9	187	24	12.9	401	66	16.4
First marriage	214	105	57	42	74.4	48	12	24.1	109	20	18.3
Divorced, remarried	507	215	76	45	59.5	139	13	9.0	292	46	15.7
Divorced	546	255	114	64	55.9	141	29	20.8	291	36	12.4
Separated	191	53	34	20	59.0	20	6	30.3	138	24	17.1
Widowed ¹	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
Never married	120	19	1	-	-	18	5	25.8	101	17	16.4
Race and Hispanic Origin											
White	1,352	576	251	144	57.6	325	60	18.4	776	122	15.7
White, not Hispanic origin	1,235	534	242	138	57.1	292	54	18.6	701	111	15.8
Black	188	51	17	14	83.7	34	5	14.0	137	16	11.6
Hispanic origin ²	118	42	9	6	71.8	34	6	16.3	75	10	13.8
Age											
15 to 17 years	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
18 to 29 years	175	52	18	11	59.8	34	5	16.0	123	7	5.4
30 to 39 years	679	306	133	86	64.9	173	36	20.7	373	57	15.2
40 years and over	725	290	130	74	56.9	160	23	14.5	435	79	18.1
Educational Attainment											
Less than high school diploma	286	77	11	4	40.6	66	2	2.9	209	14	6.9
High school graduate	603	249	109	69	63.5	141	25	17.7	354	44	12.4
Some college, no degree	319	160	58	23	38.6	102	22	21.7	159	34	21.3
Associate degree	80	31	14	14	100.0	16	5	29.0	49	6	12.2
Bachelor's degree or more	295	131	88	61	68.4	42	11	25.9	164	44	26.7
Number of Own Children Present From an Absent Parent											
One	946	369	168	94	55.7	201	36	18.0	577	96	16.7
Two	480	211	97	66	67.9	114	17	15.0	269	39	14.5
Three	123	62	16	12	72.3	46	6	13.7	61	4	6.9
Four or more	35	6	-	-	-	6	5	81.9	29	3	8.8

(X) Represents not applicable.

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero.

¹Includes widowed persons whose previous marriage ended in divorce.

²Hispanic origin persons may be of any race.

Table 6. Child Support Award and Receipt Status of Custodial Parents by Sex and Selected Characteristics of Noncustodial Parents

(Numbers in thousands. Parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Total	Received payments in 1991			
					Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
					Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL PARENTS								
Total	11,502	6,190	5,326	4,006	19,217	434	2,961	91
Standard error	255	192	179	157	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	7,596	4,427	3,789	3,014	19,036	489	2,966	108
Different State	2,269	1,339	1,180	825	21,164	1,048	3,026	197
Other	355	93	73	50	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	1,281	332	283	117	11,933	1,622	2,710	336
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	4,957	3,645	3,260	2,549	18,580	511	2,936	114
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	1,116	780	611	499	25,843	1,646	3,722	344
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	823	629	536	445	22,585	1,310	3,276	226
Noncustodial parent has neither	4,607	1,136	919	513	13,009	811	2,072	164
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	1,496	1,496	1,256	1,110	22,895	1,012	3,502	202
Court awarded payments	4,277	4,277	3,800	2,686	18,118	471	2,784	104
Other type of arrangement	417	417	270	211	13,837	1,425	2,371	295
CUSTODIAL PARENTS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	3,720	1,438	1,257	859	5,734	209	1,910	136
Standard error	151	95	89	74	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	2,406	1,095	956	687	5,857	238	1,969	160
Different State	576	227	203	111	5,263	544	1,520	297
Other	176	26	21	16	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	563	90	76	44	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	1,286	793	708	519	5,866	281	2,062	183
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	161	86	73	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	133	107	98	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has neither	2,140	453	377	224	5,215	345	1,408	212
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	237	237	208	169	5,450	485	2,465	350
Court awarded payments	1,053	1,053	943	618	5,741	243	1,761	156
Other type of arrangement	148	148	106	72	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Child Support Award and Receipt Status of Custodial Parents by Sex and Selected Characteristics of Noncustodial Parents—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Total	Received payments in 1991			
					Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
					Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL MOTHERS								
Total	9,918	5,542	4,883	3,728	18,144	405	3,011	95
Standard error	239	183	172	151	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	6,466	3,953	3,473	2,807	18,081	478	3,025	114
Different State	1,962	1,193	1,076	767	19,555	814	3,039	190
Other	328	91	73	50	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	1,163	306	261	104	10,886	1,541	2,820	374
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	4,319	3,368	3,038	2,401	17,907	501	2,965	116
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	768	581	506	435	22,529	1,240	3,985	387
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	661	538	481	407	21,554	1,355	3,310	240
Noncustodial parent has neither	4,172	1,055	858	484	12,513	804	2,115	172
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	1,314	1,314	1,139	1,033	21,405	881	3,597	214
Court awarded payments	3,864	3,864	3,501	2,503	17,195	461	2,811	107
Other type of arrangement	365	365	244	192	12,974	1,344	2,469	320
CUSTODIAL MOTHERS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	3,513	1,368	1,200	845	5,687	207	1,922	138
Standard error	147	93	87	73	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	2,278	1,049	914	674	5,805	235	1,985	162
Different State	526	207	190	110	5,235	550	1,526	301
Other	171	24	21	16	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	538	88	74	44	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	1,218	769	686	508	5,780	276	2,079	185
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	145	86	73	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	116	94	90	58	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has neither	2,034	419	351	222	5,234	348	1,418	214
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	231	231	201	166	5,479	491	2,493	353
Court awarded payments	997	997	895	606	5,667	239	1,771	158
Other type of arrangement	140	140	104	72	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Child Support Award and Receipt Status of Custodial Parents by Sex and Selected Characteristics of Noncustodial Parents—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Parents 15 years and older with own children under 21 years of age present from absent parents as of spring 1992)

Characteristic	Total	Child support agreed to or awarded						
		Total	Supposed to receive child support in 1991					
			Total	Total	Received payments in 1991			
					Mean total money income		Mean income from child support	
					Dollars	Standard error	Dollars	Standard error
ALL CUSTODIAL FATHERS								
Total	1,584	648	443	278	33,579	2,687	2,292	322
Standard error	100	64	53	42	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	1,131	474	316	206	32,035	2,453	2,160	250
Different State	307	146	105	59	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Other	28	3	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	118	26	22	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	638	277	222	148	29,525	2,948	2,468	557
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	348	199	105	64	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	162	90	55	38	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has neither	436	81	61	29	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	182	182	117	77	42,800	7,507	2,222	445
Court awarded payments	414	414	299	183	30,770	2,285	2,416	451
Other type of arrangement	53	53	27	19	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
CUSTODIAL FATHERS BELOW POVERTY								
Total	207	71	57	14	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Standard error	36	21	19	10	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Residence of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Same State	128	46	42	13	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Different State	50	20	13	1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Other	5	3	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unknown	25	2	2	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Visitation and Joint Custody Arrangements of Noncustodial Parent in 1991								
Noncustodial parent has visitation privileges only	68	24	22	12	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has joint custody only	16	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has visitation and joint custody	16	12	9	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Noncustodial parent has neither	106	34	26	2	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Type of Child Support Agreement								
Voluntary written agreement	6	6	6	2	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Court awarded payments	56	56	48	12	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Other type of arrangement	8	8	2	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

(B) Represents base less than 75,000.

(X) Represents not applicable.

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero.

Appendix A.

Definitions, Explanations, and Comparability of Data

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO CHILD SUPPORT

Child support. Data on award of child support payments were collected from persons 15 years or older with children under 21 years of age whose other parent was not living in the household as of spring 1992. Information on reciprocity and amount of payments was obtained from persons who reported that they were awarded or had agreements to receive child support payments in 1991.

Reason for nonaward of child support.

Final agreement pending: A child support agreement was awaiting final court, magisterial, or legal action before becoming final, and/or a voluntary written agreement was not yet final.

Joint custody granted: Housing, care, and support of the child(ren) was shared by both parents; therefore, no money or other support was exchanged.

Did not want child support: The custodial parent indicated he/she did not want child support for own child(ren).

Unable to locate other parent: Child support was desired, but the child(ren)'s noncustodial parent could not be located.

Unable to establish paternity: Child support arrangements could not be made because the child(ren)'s paternity could not be established.

Some other reason: The custodial parent wanted child support, and the reason for nonaward did not fit any of the reasons listed above.

Inclusion of health insurance in child support award. This item refers to whether the child(ren)'s noncustodial parent had made health insurance arrangements for his/her child(ren) as part of the child support award. Arrangements for health insurance could have been made by the noncustodial parent purchasing a separate policy for the child(ren) or including the child(ren) under the health insurance provided by his/her employer. In either event, the purchase of, or inclusion of, health

insurance must be part of the child support agreement. Insurance taken out by the custodial parent but paid for with monies from child support from the noncustodial parent is not included.

Type of child support arrangement.

Voluntary written agreement: Voluntary written agreements between the parties. This agreement may or may not have been recognized by the courts as part of the divorce or separation proceedings. This type of agreement was not ordered by the courts.

Court ordered: Payments ordered by a court. Court-ordered payments usually take place when a mutually acceptable agreement cannot be worked out between the parties.

Other: Arrangements not within either of the two cases above. This category includes informal verbal agreements.

DEFINITIONS OF SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Age. The age classification is based on the age of the custodial parent at last birthday.

Race. The population is divided into two groups on the basis of race: White and Black (the "other races" group is not explicitly identified). The remaining category, "White, not of Hispanic origin," is a subgroup of all White custodial parents.

Persons of Hispanic origin. Hispanic custodial parents were identified by a question that asked for self-identification of the person's origin or descent. Respondents were asked to select their origin (and the origin of other household members) from a "flash card" listing ethnic origins. Persons of Hispanic origin, in particular, were those who indicated that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Hispanic origin. It should be noted that Hispanic persons can be of any race.

Educational attainment. This classification refers to the highest level of school completed or the highest degree received. The category, "Associate degree"

includes persons whose highest degree is an associate degree either in (1) an occupational program that prepares them for a specific occupation, and the course work may or may not be creditable toward a bachelor's degree or (2) an academic program primarily in the arts and sciences, and the course work is transferable to a bachelor's degree. Some examples of professional degrees include medicine, dentistry, chiropractic, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, law, and theology, but specifically exclude barber school, cosmetology, or other training for a specific trade.

Beginning in January 1992, the CPS began using an educational attainment question similar to that used in the 1990 Decennial Census of Population and Housing. Consequently, data on educational attainment from the 1992 CPS are not totally comparable to CPS data for prior years. Prior to 1992, the CPS educational attainment data were derived from the combination of answers to questions concerning the highest grade of school attended by the person and whether or not that grade was finished. For a discussion of the change in the form of the question and some of the motivating factors behind the change, see the introductory text of the report, *Money Income of Households, Families, and Persons in the United States: 1991*, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 180.

Marital status. The marital status classification refers to the status at the time of enumeration. Persons classified as "married" consist of those who were currently married regardless of whether or not they were previously divorced. Persons classified as "widowed" consist of those who are widowed by a person that is not the absent parent. Persons classified as separated are either legally separated or otherwise absent from their spouse because of marital discord. Persons in common-law marriages are classified as married, and persons who have never been married or whose only marriage was annulled are classified as never-married.

Year of divorce or separation. The year of divorce or separation reflects the year of marital dissolution. For persons who were divorced or separated more than once, it is the year of most recent divorce or separation. For divorces that require a formal (legal) separation, the year reflects that year the actual divorce took place.

Custodial and noncustodial parents. Parents who were living with their children (included adopted children) whose other parent was absent from the home at the time of the survey are referred to as the custodial parent. Conversely, the parents not living in the home of their children are referred to as the noncustodial parent. "Noncustodial parent" in this report refers to parents who are *physically* absent from their children's home *with the other parent* at the time of the survey. It makes

no reference as to whether these absent parents have joint custody. The questionnaire was designed to identify families where at least one child in the household has a noncustodial parent.

Family. A family is a group of two persons or more (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family. Beginning with the 1980 CPS, unrelated subfamilies (referred to in the past as secondary families) are no longer included in the count of families, nor are the members of unrelated subfamilies included in the count of family members.

DEFINITIONS OF MONEY INCOME AND POVERTY STATUS

Income. For each person in the sample 15 years old and over, questions were asked on the amount of money income received in the preceding calendar year from each of the following sources: (1) earnings from longest job (or self-employment); (2) earnings from jobs other than longest job; (3) unemployment compensation; (4) Social Security; (5) Supplement Security income; (6) public assistance; (7) veterans' payments; (8) survivor benefits; (9) disability benefits; (10) retirement pensions; (11) interest; (12) dividends; (13) rents and royalties or estates and trusts; (14) educational assistance; (15) alimony; (16) child support; (17) financial assistance from outside of the household, and other periodic income.

It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the preceding year, the characteristics of the woman (such as age and marital status) and the composition of families refer to the time of the survey. The income of the family does not include amounts received by persons who were members of the family during all or part of the income year if these persons no longer resided with the family at the time of enumeration. However, family income includes amounts reported by related persons who did not reside with the family during the income year but who were members of the family at the time of enumeration.

Total money income. This is defined as the algebraic sum of money wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, and income other than earnings. The total income of a family is the algebraic sum of the amounts received by all income recipients in the family.

Mean income. The mean income is the amount obtained by dividing the total income of a group by the number of units in that group. The means for households and families are based on all households and families. The means for persons are based on persons with income.

Underreporting. As in most household surveys, the estimates of the number of money income recipients and the total amount of money income derived from the March CPS are somewhat less than comparable estimates derived from independent sources, such as the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Social Security Administration, and Veterans' Administration. The difference between the survey estimate is generally termed "underreporting." Underreporting tends to be more pronounced for income sources such as public assistance and welfare, unemployment compensation, and property income (interest, dividends, and net rental income). Estimates of income from wages and salaries tend to have less underreporting than most income types.

Poverty definition. Families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the poverty level using the poverty index originated at the Social Security Administration in 1964 and revised by Federal Interagency Committees in 1969 and 1980. The poverty index is based solely on money income and does not reflect the fact that many low-income persons receive food stamps, Medicaid, and public housing. The index is based on the Department of Agriculture's 1961 Economy Food Plan and reflects the different consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition. It was determined from the Department of Agriculture's 1955 Survey of Food Consumption that families of three or more persons spend approximately one-third of their income on food; the poverty level for these families was, therefore, set at three times the cost of the economy food plan. For smaller families and persons living alone, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by factors that were slightly higher in order to compensate for the relatively larger fixed expenses of these smaller households. The poverty thresholds are updated every

year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The average poverty threshold for a family of four was \$13,924 in 1991. Weighted average poverty thresholds by size of family are shown in table A-1. For further details, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 180.

Weighted average thresholds at the poverty level.

The poverty cutoffs used by the Bureau of the Census to determine the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals consist of a set of 48 thresholds arranged in a two-dimensional matrix consisting of family size (from one person, i.e., unrelated individuals, to nine or more persons) cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old (from no children present to eight or more children present). Unrelated individuals and two-person families are further differentiated by the age of the individual or family householder (under 65 years and 65 years and over). The total family income of each family in the sample is tested against the appropriate dollar threshold to determine the poverty status of that family. If the family's total income is less than its corresponding cutoff, the family is classified as below the poverty level. The average thresholds shown in table A-1 were weighted by the presence and number of children. For a given size of family, the weighted average threshold for that group is obtained by multiplying the threshold for each presence and number of children category within the given family size by the number of families in that category. These products are then aggregated across the entire range of presence and number of children categories, and the total aggregate is divided by the total number of families in the group to yield the weighted average threshold at the poverty level for that family. Because family composition does not remain constant from year to year, the weighted

Table A-1. Poverty Thresholds in 1991 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years

Size of family unit	Weighted average thresholds	Related children under 18 years								
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual)	6,932									
Under 65 years	7,086	7,086								
65 years and over.....	6,532	6,532								
Two persons	8,865									
Householder under 65 years ..	9,165	9,120	9,388							
Householder 65 years and over	8,241	8,233	9,352							
Three persons	10,860	10,654	10,963	10,973						
Four persons	13,924	14,048	14,278	13,812	13,860					
Five persons	16,456	16,941	17,188	16,662	16,254	16,006				
Six persons	18,587	19,486	19,563	19,160	18,773	18,199	17,859			
Seven persons.....	21,058	22,421	22,561	22,078	21,742	21,115	20,384	19,582		
Eight persons.....	23,605	25,076	25,297	24,842	24,443	23,887	23,158	22,410	22,220	
Nine persons or more	27,942	30,165	30,311	29,908	29,569	29,014	28,249	27,558	27,386	26,331

average thresholds for 1991 will not reflect, identically, the change in the CPI between 1991 and earlier years.

EXPLANATIONS OF TEXT AND TABLE CONVENTIONS

Rounding. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent; therefore, the percentages in a distribution do not always add to exactly 100.0 percent. The totals, however, are always shown as 100.0. Moreover, individual figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded; percentages are based on the unrounded numbers.

Symbols. A dash (-) represents zero or rounds to zero, the symbol "B" means that the base for the derived figure is less than 75,000, the symbol "X" means not applicable, the symbol "NA" means not available, and the symbol "r" means revised.

CHANGES TO THE 1992 CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS) CHILD SUPPORT SUPPLEMENT

At the request of the sponsor (The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), new questions were added to the April 1992 child support supplement to expand the scope and improve the usefulness of the data.¹

Survey Scope

Two previously excluded categories of custodial parents were added to the supplement for the first time—custodial fathers and currently-married custodial mothers who were not previously divorced. Men had been excluded because it was thought there were too few custodial fathers to yield any significant data. Currently married custodial mothers who were not previously divorced had been excluded because of perceived sensitivity of the questions.

In order to expand the universe and reduce possible respondent sensitivity, a new self-response question "Do you have any children under 21 years of age in this household who have a parent living elsewhere?" was asked of all persons 15 years or older. This new question is the same question used in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). This single question also reduced respondent burden by eliminating other screening questions used in prior CPS child support supplements.

The new screening question was intended to make the supplement more inclusive of all persons who were most likely to be eligible for child support at some time. However, the changes may have also caused some persons formerly included in the supplement to be excluded. For example, in prior supplements, *all* never-married custodial mothers were asked the questions in the supplement. In 1992, never-married women who had children, but were either cohabiting with the father, or didn't consider him to be absent may have, by answering the screening question truthfully, excluded themselves from the supplement.

Content Changes

Other changes to the survey in 1992 included adding questions about participation in government programs in the prior year, the State of residence of the noncustodial parent, identification of children with noncustodial parents, and the number of secondary child support agreements. Another change is identifying child support awards received for children from divorces other than the most recent one.

Processing Changes

In 1992, adjusting for any differences between child support amounts reported in the April supplement and child support amounts reported in the March supplement was discontinued. Prior to 1992, April supplement child support amounts were adjusted to March supplement levels when reported March amounts were higher. April data on child support amounts *due* were also adjusted to keep the March-April difference, if any, constant.

Historical Comparisons With Previous Child Support Supplements

Due to the nature of the changes to the survey universe discussed, much of the information from the 1992 Child Support Supplement is not strictly comparable to previous data. Therefore, extreme caution should be used when comparing data from the 1992 child support supplement with prior supplements.

The only data unlikely to be affected by the changes in the survey are for currently divorced or separated women. (Data may have even been affected for these latter two groups by the change in the screener question.) Comparative statistics for these women are shown below for the 1990 and 1992 CPS supplements.

¹See Series P-60. No. 173, *Child Support and Alimony* previously published for a facsimile of the April 1990 supplement and Appendix C for a facsimile of the April 1992 supplement.

Table A-2. **Divorced or Separated Custodial Mothers by Child Support Award and Reciprocity Status: 1990 and 1992**

Custodial mothers	Divorced		Separated	
	1990	1992	1990	1992
Total women thousands . .	3,056	3,052	1,352	1,514
Awarded child support percent total . .	76.8	72.8	47.9	46.4
Supposed to receive child support percent awarded . .	90.5	91.3	81.3	80.2
Actually received child support percent due . .	77.0	78.3	79.7	74.2

Table A-2 shows that there was no significant difference between the total number of divorced custodial mothers in 1990 and 1992, neither were there differences among subgroups. Comparisons of separated custodial mothers revealed similar patterns.

COMPARABILITY OF CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS) ESTIMATES AND SURVEY OF INCOME AND PROGRAM PARTICIPATION (SIPP) ESTIMATES

Content. Data on child support agreements have been collected in SIPP topical modules in a number of panels in the years 1984 through 1991, 1993 and 1994. The same basic data about child support awards, and payments from the most recent agreement, are collected in both the CPS and SIPP. However, the SIPP collects more detailed data on changes in amounts of child support due, health care arrangements, custodial arrangements, and contact with the noncustodial parent. The SIPP also collects detailed data on other child support agreements received by custodial parents, and more detail concerning children without child support agreements.

Survey design. The surveys differ in terms of sample sizes. The SIPP sample size has been approximately 20,000 households for each panel, compared with 60,000 households in the CPS. (Custodial parent households surveyed are a subset of these household samples.) The upcoming 1996 SIPP panel will have a sample size more comparable to the CPS, approximately 50,000. The larger sample size will enhance the survey's ability to measure change by lowering the standard errors on differences between estimates for two points in time, and improve the survey's ability to measure differences between subpopulations at one point in time.

The surveys also differ in terms of data collection procedures. The CPS is a cross-sectional survey that provides a series of snapshots of the socioeconomic conditions that exist at different points fixed in time. The CPS data presented in this report are based on the demographic characteristics as they existed at the time the survey was conducted (April for the child support supplement) and are applied to the economic characteristics that existed the previous calendar year. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey that captures change over

time by collecting demographic and economic data on a *monthly basis* throughout the calendar year and linking it to the child support topical module. SIPP core data are likely to reflect changes during the year (and over the entire 2 1/2 year panel). For general information on SIPP, see the section "Appendix A" in P70-40, *Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: Labor Force and Income, 1990 to 1992*.

Some basic comparisons of the custodial parent population and child support dollar amounts may be made between the two surveys. The SIPP topical module estimated 12.7 million custodial parents with children under 21 in the fourth quarter of 1991, compared with the 11.5 million estimated in the CPS in spring 1992. (There is a difference between the surveys' reference months—October 1991 through January 1992 for the SIPP, compared with April 1992 for the CPS.) The number of custodial parents *with child support awards* was also greater in the SIPP than the CPS; approximately 6.9 million custodial parents had received a child support award, compared to 6.2 million in the CPS. However, the percentage of custodial parents with child support awards, 54 percent, was not different across

Table A-3. **Comparison of Child Support Data From the Current Population Survey (CPS) and the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP): 1992**

(As of April 1992 in the CPS. As of October, November, December 1991, or January 1992 in the SIPP)

Characteristic	CPS	SIPP
Custodial Parents		
Total millions . .	11.5	12.7
Female	9.9	11.1
Male	1.6	1.6
Custodial Parents With Awards		
Total millions . .	6.2	6.9
Female	5.5	6.4
Male	0.6	0.4
Mean Child Support in 1991¹		
Total dollars . .	2,961	3,010
Female	3,011	2,263
Male	2,292	3,040

¹CPS child support income reported for calendar year 1991. SIPP child support income reported for 12 consecutive months between September 1990 and December 1991.

the surveys. The percentage of custodial fathers among custodial parents, approximately 13 percent, was not different across surveys either (see table A-3).

Mean child support amounts estimated in the CPS and SIPP topical modules were comparable in 1991, although the surveys covered slightly different 12-month periods. The SIPP reported that custodial parents' child support income from the fourth quarter of 1990 to the fourth quarter of 1991 amounted to \$3,010, per year, on average, not significantly different from the \$2,961 reported in the CPS for the 1991 calendar year.

The SIPP *core data file*, the longitudinal part of the survey that collects monthly data, also provides data on child support reciprocity and dollar amounts reported in its detailed income section. Higher estimates of aggregate child support income and reciprocity were observed in the SIPP than in the CPS.² Part of SIPP's advantage in the core data file is probably due to its ability to

capture *more* child support recipients through its monthly data collection, compared with the one-time data collection in the CPS.

In sum, the SIPP offers the opportunity to enhance detailed child support income data in the topical module by linking it to detailed income data in the core file. However, the CPS is designed to provide a snapshot view with minimal time devoted to data collection.

²In an analysis of 1984 and 1990 income sources in the SIPP and the CPS, the income reference period was controlled to the calendar years for both the SIPP and the CPS and the population was controlled to the population that existed in March following the income year. In 1990, the SIPP surpassed the CPS in aggregate child support income by 16 percent. The SIPP estimate of child support recipients surpassed the CPS estimates by 27 percent in 1990. For further information, see John Coder and Lydia Scoon-Rogers, *Evaluating the Quality of Income Data Collected in the Annual Supplement to the March Current Population Survey and the Survey of Income and Program Participation*, Bureau of the Census Technical Paper forthcoming.

Appendix B.

Source and Accuracy of Estimates

SOURCE OF DATA

Most estimates in this report come from data obtained in March and April of 1992 in the Current Population Survey (CPS). The Bureau of the Census conducts the survey every month, although this report uses only March and April data for its estimates. The March and April surveys use two sets of questions, the basic CPS and the supplement for each month.

Basic CPS. The basic CPS collects primarily labor force data about the civilian noninstitutional population. Field Representatives ask questions concerning labor force participation about each member 15 years old and over in every sample household.

The present CPS sample was selected from the 1980 Decennial Census files with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The sample is continually updated to account for new residential construction. The United States was divided into 1,973 geographic areas. In most states, a geographic area consisted of a county or several contiguous counties. In some areas of New England and Hawaii, minor civil divisions were used instead of counties. A total of 729 geographic areas was selected for sample. About 60,000 occupied households are eligible for interview every month. Interviewers are unable to obtain interviews at about 2,600 of these units. This occurs when the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason.

Since the introduction of the CPS, the Bureau of the Census has redesigned the CPS sample several times. These redesigns have improved the quality and accuracy of the data and have satisfied changing data needs. The most recent changes were completely implemented in July 1985.

Table B-1 summarizes changes in the CPS designs for the years for which data are available.

March and April 1992 supplements. In addition to the basic CPS questions, field representatives asked supplementary questions in March about the economic situation of persons and families for the previous year. About 53,000 of the housing units interviewed in March were interviewed again in April. In these housing units, all persons 15 years of age and older were asked supplemental questions concerning child support payments and marital status. Of the 84,000 persons interviewed

Table B-1. **Description of the March Current Population Survey**

Time period	Number of sample areas	Housing units eligible ¹	
		Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed
1990 to 1992	729	57,400	2,600
April 1988 to 1989	729	53,600	2,500
1986 to March 1988	729	57,000	2,500
1985	629/729 ²	57,000	2,500
1982 to 1984	629	59,000	2,500
1980 to 1981	629	65,500	3,000
1978 to 1979	614	55,000	3,000

¹Excludes about 2,500 Hispanic households added from the previous November sample. (See "March Supplement.")

²The CPS was redesigned following the 1980 Census of Population and Housing. During phase-in of the new design, housing units from the new and old designs were in the sample.

in March, 80,000 of these persons matched persons interviewed in April. For the remaining 4,000 persons interviewed in March, the child support information was imputed. Table B-3 gives the sample sizes and the imputation rates by sex and by marital status.

Estimation procedure. This survey's estimation procedure inflates weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, sex, race, and Hispanic/non-Hispanic categories. The independent estimates were based on statistics from decennial censuses of population; statistics on births, deaths, immigration and emigration; and statistics on the size of the Armed Forces. The independent population estimates used for the March 1981 CPS to present were based on updates to controls established by the 1980 Decennial Census. Data previous to 1981 were based on independent population estimates from the most recent decennial census. For more details on the change in independent estimates, see the section entitled "Introduction of 1980 Census Population Controls" in an earlier report (Series P-60, No. 133).

The estimates for 1985 and later also employ a revised survey weighting procedure for persons of Hispanic origin. In previous years, weighted sample results were inflated to independent estimates of the noninstitutional population by age, sex, and race. There was no specific control of the survey estimates for the Hispanic population. Since then, the Bureau of the Census developed independent population controls for the Hispanic

population by sex and detailed age groups. Revised weighting procedures incorporate these new controls. The independent population estimates include some, but not all, undocumented immigrants.

ACCURACY OF ESTIMATES

Since the CPS estimates come from a sample, they may differ from figures from a complete census using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators. A sample survey estimate has two possible types of error: nonsampling and sampling. The accuracy of an estimate depends on both types of error, but the full extent of the nonsampling error is unknown. Consequently, one should be particularly careful when interpreting results based on a relatively small number of cases or on small differences between estimates. The standard errors for CPS estimates primarily indicate the magnitude of sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in responses and enumeration, but do not measure systematic biases in the data. (Bias is the average over all possible samples of the differences between the sample estimates and the desired value.)

Nonsampling variability. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to several sources including the following:

- Inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample
- Definitional difficulties
- Differences in the interpretation of questions
- Respondents' inability or unwillingness to provide correct information
- Respondents' inability to recall information
- Errors made in data collection such as in recording or coding the data
- Errors made in processing the data
- Errors made in estimating values for missing data
- Failure to represent all units with the sample

CPS undercoverage results from missed housing units and missed persons within sample households. Compared to the level of the 1980 Decennial Census, overall CPS undercoverage is about 7 percent. Undercoverage varies with age, sex, and race. Generally, undercoverage is larger for males than for females and larger for Blacks and other races combined than for Whites. As described previously, ratio estimation to independent age-sex-race-Hispanic population controls partially corrects for the bias due to undercoverage. However, biases exist in the estimates to the extent that

Table B-2. CPS Coverage Ratios

Age	Non-Black		Black		All persons		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
0 to 14	0.929	0.964	0.850	0.838	0.916	0.943	0.929
15	0.933	0.895	0.763	0.824	0.905	0.883	0.895
16 to 19	0.881	0.891	0.711	0.802	0.855	0.877	0.866
20 to 29	0.847	0.897	0.660	0.811	0.823	0.884	0.854
30 to 39	0.904	0.931	0.680	0.845	0.877	0.920	0.899
40 to 49	0.928	0.966	0.816	0.911	0.917	0.959	0.938
50 to 59	0.953	0.974	0.896	0.927	0.948	0.969	0.959
60 to 64	0.961	0.941	0.954	0.953	0.960	0.942	0.950
65 to 69	0.919	0.972	0.982	0.984	0.924	0.973	0.951
70 and over	0.993	1.004	0.996	0.979	0.993	1.002	0.998
15 and over	0.914	0.945	0.767	0.874	0.898	0.927	0.918
0 and over	0.918	0.949	0.793	0.864	0.902	0.931	0.921

missed persons in missed households or missed persons in interviewed households have different characteristics from those of interviewed persons in the same age-sex-race-Hispanic group. Furthermore, the independent population controls have not been adjusted for undercoverage in the 1980 census.

A common measure of survey coverage is the coverage ratio, the estimated population before ratio adjustment divided by the independent population control. Table B-2 shows CPS coverage ratios for age-sex-race groups for a recent month. The CPS coverage ratios can exhibit some variability from month to month. Other Census Bureau household surveys experience similar coverage.

For the estimates obtained from this report, the nonsampling error due to imputing values may be particularly severe. Intended to reduce nonsampling

Table B-3. Sample Sizes and Imputation Rates

Marital status	Sample size	Imputed cases	Rates
Total:			
All	83,744	4,105	4.9
Men	39,364	2,016	5.1
Women	44,380	2,089	4.7
Married:			
All	49,472	1,940	3.9
Men	24,439	941	3.9
Women	25,033	999	4.0
Widowed:			
All	6,107	216	3.5
Men	1,005	43	4.3
Women	5,102	244	3.4
Divorced or separated:			
All	6,824	461	6.8
Men	2,732	217	7.9
Women	4,092	244	6.0
Never married:			
All	21,341	1,488	7.0
Men	11,188	815	7.3
Women	10,153	673	6.6

error due to missing data, imputation procedures lose some of their effectiveness when the rate is so high. Table B-3 provides sample sizes and imputation rates by marital status. The imputation rate for divorced or separated men was the highest; approximately 8.0 percent of the data was not collected from interviews.

Answers to questions about income often depend on the memory or knowledge of one person in a household. Recall problems can cause underestimates of income in survey data because it is easy to forget minor or irregular sources of income. Respondents may also misunderstand what the Census Bureau considers income, or may simply be unwilling to answer these questions correctly because the questions are considered too personal.

For additional information on nonsampling error, including the possible impact on CPS data when known, refer to Statistical Policy Working Paper 3, *An Error Profile: Employment as Measured by the Current Population Survey*, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1978, and Technical Paper 40, *The Current Population Survey: Design and Methodology*, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Sampling variability. Sampling variability is variation that occurred by chance because a sample was surveyed rather than the entire population. Standard errors, as calculated by methods described next, are primarily measures of sampling variability, although they may include some nonsampling error.

Comparability of data. Data obtained from the CPS and other sources are not entirely comparable. This results from differences in field representative training and experience, and in differing survey processes. This is an example of nonsampling variability not reflected in the standard errors. Use caution when comparing results from different sources.

Caution should also be used when comparing estimates in this report, which reflect 1980 census-based population controls, with estimates for 1979 and earlier years, which reflect 1970 census-based population controls. This change in population controls had relatively little impact on summary measures such as means, medians, and percentage distributions, but did have a significant impact on levels. For example, use of 1980-based population controls results in about a 2-percent increase in the civilian noninstitutional population and in the number of families and households. Thus, estimates of levels for data collected in 1981 and later years will differ from those for earlier years by more than what could be attributed to actual changes in the population. These differences could be disproportionately greater for certain subpopulation groups than for the total population.

Since no independent population control totals for persons of Hispanic origin were used before 1985, compare Hispanic estimates over time cautiously.

Note when using small estimates. Summary measures (such as medians and percentage distributions) are shown only when the base is 75,000 or greater. Because of the large standard errors involved, summary measures would probably not reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. However, estimated numbers are shown even though the relative standard errors of these numbers are larger than those for corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates permit combinations of the categories to suit data users' needs. Take care in the interpretation of small differences. For instance, even a small amount of nonsampling error can cause a borderline difference to appear significant or not, thus distorting a seemingly valid hypothesis test.

Standard errors and their use. A number of approximations are required to derive, at a moderate cost, standard errors applicable to estimates in this report. Instead of providing an individual standard error for each estimate, two parameters, *a* and *b*, are provided to calculate standard errors for each type of characteristic. Thus the tables show levels of magnitude of standard errors rather than the precise standard errors.

Table B-4 provides standard errors of estimated numbers. Table B-5 provides standard errors of estimated percentages. Table B-6 has standard error parameters for persons and families in this report. Table B-6 also provides factors to apply to the parameters in tables B-4 and B-5.

The sample estimate and its standard error enable one to construct a confidence interval. A confidence interval is a range that would include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability. For

Table B-4. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers

(Thousands)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
10.....	5	7,000	140
75.....	15	8,000	149
250.....	27	9,000	157
500.....	39	10,000	164
1,000.....	55	11,000	172
2,000.....	77	12,000	178
3,000.....	94	13,000	184
4,000.....	107	15,000	196
5,000.....	119	17,000	206
6,000.....	130	20,000	219

NOTE: These standard errors were calculated using $a = -0.000030$ and $b = 3005$. For a particular characteristic, see table B-6 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

Table B-5. **Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages**

Base of estimated percentage (thousands)	Estimated percentages				
	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
75	2.8	4.4	6.0	8.7	10.0
200	1.7	2.7	3.7	5.3	6.1
300	1.4	2.2	3.0	4.3	5.0
400	1.2	1.9	2.6	3.8	4.3
500	1.1	1.7	2.3	3.4	3.9
600	1.0	1.5	2.1	3.1	3.5
800	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.7	3.1
1,000	0.8	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.7
1,200	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.2	2.5
1,500	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.9	2.2
2,000	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.9
3,000	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.6
4,000	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.4
5,000	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.2
10,000	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.9
15,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
17,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
20,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6

NOTE: These standard errors were calculated using $b = 3,005$. For a particular characteristic, see table B-6 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

example, if all possible samples were surveyed under essentially the same general conditions and using the same sample design, and if an estimate and its standard error were calculated from each sample, then approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.645 standard errors below the estimate to 1.645 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

A particular confidence interval may or may not contain the average estimate derived from all possible samples. However, one can say with specified confidence that the interval includes the average estimate calculated from all possible samples.

Some statements in the report may contain estimates followed by a number in parentheses. This number can be added to and subtracted from the estimate to calculate upper and lower bounds of the 90-percent confidence interval. For example, if a statement contains the phrase "grew by 1.7 percent (± 1.0)," the 90-percent confidence interval for the estimate, 1.7 percent, is from 0.7 percent to 2.7 percent.

Standard errors may also be used to perform hypothesis testing. This is a procedure for distinguishing between population parameters using sample estimates. One common type of hypothesis is that the population parameters are different. An example of this would be comparing the poverty rate for White families with the poverty rate for Black families.

Tests may be performed at various levels of significance. A significance level is the probability of concluding that the characteristics are different when, in fact,

they are the same. To conclude that two parameters are different at the 0.10 level of significance, for example, the absolute value of the estimated difference between characteristics is greater than or equal to 1.645 times the standard error of the difference.

The Census Bureau uses 90-percent confidence intervals and 0.10 levels of significance to determine statistical validity. Consult standard statistical textbooks for alternative criteria.

Standard errors of estimated numbers. The approximate standard error, s_x , of an estimated number shown in this report can be obtained using the formula

$$s_x = fs \quad (1)$$

where f is a factor from table B-6, and s is the standard error of the estimate obtained by interpolation from table B-4. The second method uses formula (2), from which the standard errors in table B-4 were calculated. This formula will provide more accurate results than formula (1).

$$s_x = \sqrt{ax^2 + bx} \quad (2)$$

Table B-6. **Parameters for 1991 Child Support Report**

Characteristic	Parameter		Factor
	a	b	
INCOME			
Total or White	-0.000030	3,005	1.0
Black	-0.000225	3,436	1.1
Hispanic origin	-0.000791	5,791	1.4
Persons below the poverty level:			
Total or White	-0.000127	12,668	2.1
Black	-0.000828	12,668	2.1
Hispanic origin	-0.002916	21,349	2.7
Families:			
Total or White	-0.000016	2,744	1.0
Black	-0.000141	2,991	1.0
Hispanic origin	-0.000023	5,041	1.3
NONINCOME			
Women or men with dependent children whose mothers or fathers are absent, marital status:			
Total or White	-0.000064	6,380	1.5
Black	-0.000598	9,152	1.7
Hispanic origin	-0.002107	15,424	2.3
Selected characteristics of women and men:			
Education	-0.000021	3,376	1.1
Employment			
Total	-0.000021	3,318	1.1
Women	-0.000034	2,816	1.0
Men	-0.000038	3,067	1.0
Unemployment	-0.000021	3,287	1.0
Selected characteristics of families:			
Tenure	-0.000018	3,501	1.1

Here x is the size of the estimate and a and b are the parameters in table B-6 associated with the particular type of characteristic. When calculating standard errors for numbers from cross-tabulations involving different characteristics, use the factor or set of parameters for the characteristic which will give the largest standard error.

Illustration

Suppose that there were 5,618,000 women with child support payments agreed to or awarded. Use the appropriate parameters from table B-6 and formula (2) to get

Estimate, x	5,618,000
a parameter	-0.000064
b parameter	6,380
Standard error	184,000
90-percent confidence interval	5,315,300 to 5,920,700

The standard error is calculated as

$$s_x = \sqrt{(-0.000064)(5,618,000)^2 + (6,380)(5,618,000)} \\ = 184,000$$

The 90-percent confidence interval for the number of women with child support payments agreed to or awarded is calculated as $5,618,000 \pm 1.645 \times 184,000$. A conclusion that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 90 percent of all possible samples.

The alternate calculation of the standard error, using formula (1) with $f=1.5$ from table B-6 and $s = 126,000$ by interpolation from table B-4 is

$$s_x = 1.5 \times 126,000 = 189,000$$

Standard errors of estimated percentages. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends on the size of the percentage and its base. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more. When the numerator and denominator of the percentage are in different categories, use the factor or parameter from table B-6 indicated by the numerator.

The approximate standard error, $s_{x,p}$, of an estimated percentage can be obtained by use of the formula

$$s_{x,p} = fs \quad (3)$$

In this formula, f is the appropriate factor from table B-6 and s is the standard error of the estimate obtained by interpolation from table B-5.

Alternatively, formula (4) will provide more accurate results:

$$s_{x,p} = \sqrt{\frac{b}{x} p (100 - p)} \quad (4)$$

Here x is the total number of persons, families, households, or unrelated individuals which is the base of the percentage, p is the percentage ($0 \leq p \leq 100$), and b is the parameter in table B-6 associated with the characteristic in the numerator of the percentage.

Illustration

Suppose 74.6 percent of the 4,839,000 women due child support payments actually received payment. Use the appropriate parameter from table B-6 and formula (4) to get

Percentage, p	74.6
Base, x	4,839,000
b parameter	6,380
Standard error	1.6
90-percent confidence interval	72.0 to 77.2

The standard error is calculated as

$$s_{x,p} = \sqrt{\frac{6,380}{4,839,000} (74.6)(25.4)} = 1.6$$

The 90-percent confidence interval for the estimated percentage of women who actually received payment is calculated as $74.6 \pm 1.645 \times 1.6$.

The alternate calculation of the standard error using formula (3) with $f = 1.5$ from table B-6 and $s = 1.1$ by interpolation from table B-5 is

$$s_{x,p} = 1.5 \times 1.1 = 1.7$$

Standard error of a difference. The standard error of the difference between two sample estimates is approximately equal to

$$s_{x-y} = \sqrt{s_x^2 + s_y^2} \quad (5)$$

where s_x and s_y are the standard errors of the estimates, x and y . The estimates can be numbers, percentages, ratios, etc. This will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. However, if there is a high positive (negative) correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate (underestimate) the true standard error.

Illustration

Suppose 71.7 percent of the 1,685,000 married women due child support actually received payments, whereas 76.2 percent of the 2,032,000 divorced women due payments actually received payments. The apparent difference in the percentages between these two groups of women is 4.5 percent. Use the appropriate parameters from table B-6 and formulas (4) and (5) to get

	x	y	Difference
Estimate	71.7	76.2	4.5
a parameter	-0.000064	-0.000064	-
b parameter	6,380	6,380	-
Standard error	2.8	2.4	3.7
90-percent confidence interval	67.1 to 76.3	72.3 to 80.1	-1.6 to 10.6

The standard error of the difference is calculated as

$$s_{x-y} = \sqrt{(2.8)^2 + (2.4)^2} = 3.7$$

The 90-percent confidence interval for the estimated difference is calculated as $4.5 \pm 1.645 \times 3.7$. Since this interval includes zero, we cannot conclude with 90-percent confidence that the percentage of married women actually receiving child support payments is less than the percentage of divorced women actually receiving child support payments.

Standard error of a median. The sampling variability of an estimated median depends on the form of the distribution and the size of the base. One can approximate the reliability of an estimated median by determining a confidence interval about it. (See the section "Standard errors and their use" for a general discussion of confidence intervals.)

Estimate the 68-percent confidence limits of a median based on sample data using the following procedure.

1. Determine, using formula (4), the standard error of the estimate of 50 percent from the distribution.
2. Add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error determined in step 1.
3. Using the distribution of the characteristic, determine upper and lower limits of the 68-percent confidence interval by calculating values corresponding to the two points established in step 2. Use the following formula to calculate the upper and lower limits.

$$X_{pN} = \frac{pN - N_1}{N_2 - N_1} (A_2 - A_1) + A_1 \quad (6)$$

where

X_{pN} = estimated upper and lower bounds for the confidence interval ($0 \leq p \leq 1$). For purposes of calculating the confidence interval, p takes on the values determined in step 2. Note that X_{pN} estimates the median when $p = 0.50$.

N = for distribution of numbers: the total number of units (persons, households, etc.) for the characteristic in the distribution.

N = for distribution of percentages: the value 1.0.

p = the values obtained in step 2.

A_1, A_2 = the lower and upper bounds, respectively, of the interval containing X_{pN} .

N_1, N_2 = for distribution of numbers: the estimated number of units (persons, households, etc.) with values of the characteristic greater than or equal to A_1 and A_2 , respectively.

N_1, N_2 = for distribution of percentages: the estimated percent of units (persons, households, etc.) having values of the characteristic greater than or equal to A_1 and A_2 , respectively.

4. Divide the difference between the two points determined in step 3 by two to obtain the standard error of the median.

Illustration

Suppose that the median income for ever-divorced women with income is \$11,638 on a base of 15,773,000 women.

1. Using formula (4) with $b = 3,306$ the standard error of 50 percent on a base of 15,773,000 is about 0.7 percent.
2. To obtain a 68-percent confidence interval on the estimated median, add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error found in step 1. This yields limits of 49.3 and 50.7.
3. The income of 8,802,000 (53.2 percent) of these women was at least \$10,000 and the income of 7,684,000 (46.4 percent) of these women was at least \$12,000. Using formula (6), the lower limit on the estimate is found to be about

$$\frac{0.507 \times 15,773,000 - 8,802,000}{7,684,000 - 8,802,000} (12,000 - 10,000) + 10,000 = 11,440$$

Similarly, the upper limit is found by linear interpolation to be about

$$\frac{0.493 \times 15,773,000 - 8,802,000}{7,684,000 - 8,802,000} (12,000 - 10,000) + 10,000 = 11,835$$

Thus, a 68-percent confidence interval on the median income of ever-divorced women in 1987 is from \$11,440 to \$11,835.

4. The standard error of the median is, therefore, $(11,835 - 11,440)/2 = 198$.

NOTE: Standard errors in the tables are calculated by the same method as above. However, a different standard error may be obtained because of rounding.

Standard error of a mean for grouped data. The formula used to estimate the standard error of a mean for grouped data is

$$s_{\bar{x}} = \sqrt{(b/y)S^2} \quad (7)$$

In this formula, y is the size of the base of the distribution and b is a parameter from table B-6. The variance, s , is given by the following formula:

$$s^2 = \sum_{i=1}^c p_i \bar{x}_i^2 - \bar{x}^2 \quad (8)$$

where \bar{x} , the mean of the distribution, is estimated by

$$\bar{x} = \sum_{i=1}^c p_i \bar{x}_i \quad (9)$$

c is the number of groups; i indicates a specific group, thus taking on values 1 through c .

p_i is the estimated proportion of households, families or persons whose values, for the characteristic (x -values) being considered, fall in group i .

\bar{x}_i is $(Z_{i-1} + Z_i)/2$ where Z_{i-1} and Z_i are the lower and upper interval boundaries, respectively, for group i . \bar{x}_i is assumed to be the most representative value for the characteristic for households, families, and unrelated individuals or persons in group i . Group c is open-ended, i.e., no upper interval boundary exists. For this group the approximate average value for an open-ended interval is

$$\bar{x}_c = \frac{3}{2} Z_{c-1}$$

Appendix C.
Facsimile of April 1992 CPS Questionnaire

